

THE Hongkong Weekly Press AND China Overland Trade Report.

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BIRTHS.

On June 20th at the Victoria Hospital, the wife of R. H. A. CRAIG, of a daughter.

On 20th June, at No. 6, Langford Place, St. John's Wood, London, the wife of HERBERT W. LOCKER of Victoria, Hongkong, Solicitor, of a daughter.

DEATH.

On June 10th, at Shanghai, RUDOLF LUDWIG ERNST LEMKE, Head of Messrs. Arnhold, Karberg & Co., aged 44 years.

Hongkong Weekly Press.

HONGKONG OFFICE: 10A, DES VŒUX ROAD CL.
LONDON OFFICE: 131, FLEET STREET, E.C.

ARRIVAL OF MAILS.

The German Mail of the 19th ult. arrived per N. D. L. s.s. *Goeben* on the 16th inst.

The French Mail of the 22nd May arrived per M. M. s.s. *Caldonien* to-day, the 22nd inst.

FAR EASTERN NEWS.

A dispatch from Amoy states that Mr. Chen Pao-shên, Director-General of the Fukien Railway, still refuses to dismiss his personal friends and relatives who have been engaged without the consent or knowledge of the shareholders; and that the latter have decided to stop subscribing towards the railway shares.

His Excellency the Governor has given his assent, in the name and on behalf of His Majesty the King, to Ordinance No. 11 of 1908.—An Ordinance to authorise the appropriation of a supplementary sum of one hundred and sixty-six thousand seven hundred and thirty-five dollars and eighty-five cents, to defray the charges of the year 1907.

Messrs. W. S. Bailey & Co., the well known local shipbuilders, have received an order from Admiral Li Chun, on behalf of the Imperial Chinese Navy for a motor house-boat to carry four quick-firing guns and to have a speed of 13½ miles per hour. The new vessel will have twin screws and draw only 2 ft. 6 in. of water. She will be fitted with electric light, electric fans and lavatories all of the best finish. The vessel will be 83 feet in length and the propellers will work in tunnels in order to attain the speed upon so small a draft.

It is quite curious that of the American lawyers at Shanghai, who marshalled themselves to attack Judge Willey, not one comprehended the law relating to impeachments, and ignominiously failed to frame a single allegation covered by that law. There was in the van of this cohort of lawyers the ex-Attorney General of the Hawaiian Islands who, after filling a large book with his testimony, was informed by the committee that he had not stated one fact that brought his allegations within the law of impeachment. It is becoming clearer why some lawyers did not succeed in passing Judge Willey's examination.

The gentry and notables of Quinsan and Singyang districts have sent in a memorial signed by a large number of names to the Governor at Foochow, complaining that since the construction of the Shanghai-Nanking Railway foreigners have been visiting their districts in increasing numbers to hunt and shoot wild-fowl, etc. There have already been instances where fights between Chinese and foreigners have been averted by the merest chance, but as people cannot be so fortunate every time, the safest way would be to put a stop to these promiscuous visits of foreigners who do anything and shoot anything they please when they are in the country. This practice will be exceedingly dangerous to the peace and good order of the districts concerned if permitted to continue any longer.

On June 18th at 5.20 a opolie junk was run into by the steamer "Loongsang" off Wanchai and as a result two coolies were drowned. The "Loongsang" was leaving the harbour on her way to Manila when the collision took place. How it occurred is not very apparent yet, but when those on board the steamer saw that a collision was inevitable the engines were promptly reversed and the force of the impact was lessened. The junk was not cut, but swinging alongside the steamer after being struck was heeled over until her gunwale was under water. The passengers clambered up the other side, and as the accident was witnessed by those on board several launches soon a number of these craft were speeding to the assistance of the unfortunate people who were all rescued with the exception of two. One, an old woman, who was in the front part of the junk, was drowned, and a man met with a similar fate. Another woman who had been under water for two or three minutes was pulled out in a very exhausted condition and several of the others were injured in various ways. Thirty-two were taken ashore on the police launches, and as none were seriously hurt they were conveyed to Wanchai. The junk did not sink but was very much waterlogged. It was towed to Causeway Bay. The steamer was delayed for some time but resumed her voyage before darkness fell.

Local sages say: "Big fish eat little fish, little fish, eat shrimp, and shrimp eat mud." It might be fair to call the Farmer's Union and the Night Riders of Kentucky and Virginia the big fish, the Tobacco Trust the little fish and the Chinese coolie the shrimp that eats the mud. This parallel has been suggested by the progress of a representative of a great tobacco company through Shantung and North Kiangsu. He has placarded the towns and incidentally visited stores that sold imitation brands of the company's goods. These cigarettes he tore open and stamped on the ground. But for the timidity of the little merchants who had evidently bought the goods in utter ignorance of any patent law, there might have arisen an interesting case for international equity.

FOOCHOW.

(FROM A CORRESPONDENT.)

June 7th.

Yesterday Foochow lost one of its oldest residents and His Majesty his oldest subject in China:—

Yesterday morning Captain Shaw died at the age of nearly 87. He came to Canton when quite a boy, in one of the East India Company's ships in 1837.

He was in command for some time on the coast principally in Messrs. Gibb Livingstone and the P. & O. Company's employ and had many interesting stories to tell in connection with the stirring times of long ago.

Captain Shaw settled in Pagoda Anchorage in 1867, and with the exception of one or two visits to Shanghai has never left the port. He was Marine Surveyor for German Lloyds-Veritas & Co.,—and worked until a few years ago. He was immensely popular with all classes.

He and his family came up here last year to live and up to two or three months ago he was in his usual hearty health. Then he began to fail and yesterday saw the end.—Peace to his ashes.

He was buried yesterday afternoon with Masonic honours, the whole Community attending.

BILLS OF LADING.

The following notification from the stamp office appears in the *Gazette*:—My attention has been drawn to the fact that certain shipping companies or agencies in the Colony habitually evade the law in regard to the stamping of bills of lading and ship's receipts under the provisions of the Stamp Ordinance, 1901, as amended by the Stamp (Amendment) Ordinance, 1902.

A receipt by chop in a chit book is a ship's receipt under the law and should therefore bear a 10 cents stamp when the freight is under \$1, and a 20 cents stamp when the freight is over \$3. It is the duty of the owners or agents of the vessel to stamp accordingly, and such duty applies in respect of junks as well as other vessels.

All owners, agents, &c., are warned accordingly and they are recommended to keep two sets of receipts in stock properly stamped by the Office with the amounts of 10 cents and 20 cents respectively.

SHIPPING SUBSIDIES.

(Daily Press, 13th June.)

We reproduce on page 9 of this issue an article which must deeply interest those interested in British shipping. We are solemnly warned therein that British sailors are being crowded out of the British mercantile marine by "cheap foreigners," and that the subsidies paid by foreign governments are tending to cut British freights to a ruinously low level. The idea of the writer seems to be that Britain must in self defence go in for some method of subsidy or bounty to save its shipping though he makes no definite suggestion. The sentiment of the British people still seems to be against any proposal of a protective nature, and we doubt if it would be at all easy to get the present government to consider any sort of proposal for shipping subsidies. *Prima facie*, that would appear to be a more reasonable course to follow than to expect all the foreign governments which believe in the subsidy system to fall into line with us. Some of the good people who have felt alarm at the apparent decline of British shipping in their outcries have sought to prove too much, and have alleged that subsidies do not pay the governments which grant them. We cannot presume to argue that point, but merely point out that in the course of experience foreign governments ought to know their own business best. What seems reasonable at the moment is this, that if we believe British shipping is suffering because of foreign subsidies, we ought not to rail at foreign governments for doing their best for their own, but rather to complain that our own Government does not do as well for us, and to submit to it and urge upon it some definite proposal. There are those who desire to see the re-enactment of the Navigation Acts by way of remedy. These protective Acts had the two-fold object of protecting British sea-borne commerce and the interests of British seamen; and also to help to maintain an available reserve of sailors for the Navy. They were repealed when the British nation had got the idea that Free Trade was a blessing in itself, that it was the end instead of a means to an end. Likewise, the immediately preceding institution of continuous service in the navy had made their second object—to be a nursery for the Navy—less necessary. After the Crimean War the Navy no longer depended upon the Merchant Service for its supply of men, and so the repeal of the Navigation Acts seemed to be warranted on all grounds. The subsequent introduction of short service in the Navy was a further factor in reducing the importance of the merchant service as a source of supply to the Navy, and it made the Royal Naval Reserve almost a negligible quantity. To-day, in spite of the good relations fostered and encouraged between the two services by the Merchant Service Guild and men like Lord CHARLES BERESFORD, it is probably fair to say that no interchange of men is counted on to any appreciable extent. Each service, so far as men are concerned, is self-dependant. So it is unlikely that the old Acts will ever be welcomed back. Other remedies, as we believe we have pointed out before, are far to seek. The increase in the number of "cheap foreigners" on British ships is obviously not a matter for British shipowners to worry over. If foreign sailors are cheaper, and do the work just as well, the saving on their wages seems to partly take the place of the subsidy that some of them would like to draw. With regard to the decline in the number of British sailors, it will be suggested that

the cost of attracting Britons back to the service, by improving the conditions, could not be borne by the shipowners, already hard put to it to maintain the supremacy of British shipping. It seems clear enough that there are two distinct patriotic desires involved, the prosperity of British shipping, and the prosperity of British sailors, and that the two appear to clash. The Home Government, in its usual impulsive way, has taken one view of the employment of Asiatics; local shippers take quite another, as we have seen. It is comparatively easy to pen such articles as the one to which we thus call attention, and it has been no more difficult to point out the complexity of the position. To put forward constructive criticisms, to discover feasible remedies, is quite another matter; and we would be glad to welcome the co-operation of those who have ideas beyond mere jeremiads.

CHINESE ARMY REFORM.

(Daily Press, 15th June.)

A short time back an apparently inspired (and cautiously written) article appeared in the *Morning Post* upon the subject of the military development in China, with regard to which so many conflicting statements have from time to time been made. Taking some remarks of Sir ROBERT HART, published shortly after the Boxer rising and an article by Captain KINCAID SMITH in the *Empire Review* as his texts, the writer reviews the whole question with noticeable knowledge of its various bearings and deals with it, with an amount of impartiality which has not always been shown by those who have written upon the matter, and who have too often shown themselves manifestly influenced either by prejudice or by the desire to serve some distinct political object. In this respect the opinions expressed by Sir ROBERT HART, to which reference is made, may be taken as open to some suspicion of bias. Not that he would intentionally misrepresent the matter but that from his position and surroundings he is likely to lean rather to the view which the Chinese themselves take of the subject than to an exact estimate of its merits according to the facts so far as they can be ascertained. Even with regard to the bare facts, it must be borne in mind that an official in the Chinese service, however high placed and experienced, is likely to be dependent upon Chinese sources of information and, as we all know, there are no people more adroit than the Chinese in putting their own colouring upon facts, when they desire to convey a particular impression. Sir ROBERT HART, it will be remembered, pointed to the effects which would be produced by "twenty millions or more Boxers, armed, drilled or disciplined and animated by patriotic, if mistaken, motives, who would make residence in China impossible for foreigners, would take back everything that foreigners have taken from China, would pay off old grudges with interest and carry the Chinese flag and Chinese arms into many places that even fancy will not suggest to-day." The writer thinks there are signs that this prophecy may one day to some extent be fulfilled, but having said so much he is careful to qualify his assertion by a fair estimate of the actual facts so far as they are known, and which give much significance to the "some extent" to which the prophecy is thought likely to be realised.

That China is making an effort to improve her military system is, of course, well known; and Captain KINCAID SMITH points out the direction in which this improvement is being attempted, namely in centralising the Army and doing away with the old system of

relying upon provincial levies. Thus it will be seen that the military question in China is of the same nature as the civil problem, namely the necessity for bringing about more real centralisation; and working up a national, in place of the intensely provincial, sentiment, which has hitherto in reality (though quite contrary to theory) been prevalent throughout the Celestial Empire. When the matter is frankly looked at from this point of view the difficulties in the way of arriving at the supposed twenty millions of thoroughly disciplined and organised troops becomes apparent. The efficiency of the Chinese army upon any large scale will be dependent upon the manner in which it is administered more than upon the mere drilling and disciplining of the troops. Upon this point the writer of the article which has called for these remarks is prudently reserved. He says, with truth, that "large and well equipped training colleges for officers have been established, and a number of Chinese have been sent to Japan, Germany and France to receive military instruction," but significantly adds "that the administrative side of the work connected with the new troops is free from the corruption which taints official activities in China is improbable, but the success with which some of the divisions have been maintained and equipped suggests that more honest and efficient methods are being introduced." This is an unfortunate admission to have to make; but no one dealing with the subject fairly could leave the fact unnoticed. Corruption is the old trouble that underlies all reforms in China; and in no direction are there greater facilities for malpractices of this kind than in connection with an Army. Then there also comes for consideration the bona fide question of money for maintaining a vast body of men; and when an army of "twenty millions" is spoken of as a possible contingency, this question assumes somewhat large proportions. Even at present there it is found difficult to obtain money for the support of the troops that have been raised by the energy of YUEN SHI-KAI; and if such is the case, we can easily see a limit to the exaggerated estimates of China's military powers that have so often been made. On the whole, there is not by any means so great cause for apprehension on this score as has often been represented. The Chinese would always be impatient of the expense of maintaining a very large Army on a peace footing, and it would be necessary to do so, in order to have one in the event of war. The idea that China will become impregnated with military ardour and endeavour to make conquests abroad as she did in old (now very old) times, is negatived by all we have known of late years of her traditions and instincts; and it is only upon such a supposition that the idea of her organising any such extensive military preparations as have been suggested can be entertained. That she should have an improved military force upon which the Central Government can rely would tend to the preservation of internal order; and this is probably what statesmen like YUEN-SHI-KAI see clearly and wish to provide for. An attempt to militarise the whole nation upon so large a scale as to be a menace to her neighbours and more especially to Japan, would in all probability lead to the opposite result.

The members of the Local Self Government Society of Kwangtung province, whose headquarters are in Canton, have decided to open an exhibition of the products, manufactured and raw, of the whole province. This Fair is to be held in Canton and the opening date is fixed for June 21.

CHINESE OPINION.

(Daily Press, June 16th.)

There is no doubt that *Chinese Public Opinion*, the new paper appearing in English at Peking, is thoroughly Chinese. A statement has appeared that it was encouraged by Germans in German interests, and edited by a member of the German Legation Staff. To this the editor replies that "we are Chinese and Chinese only." If there were any further doubt remaining, it should be dispelled by a typically Chinese point of view elaborated in the issue of June 2nd, in which the editor attacks with more vigour than politeness some utterances of the Shanghai correspondent of the *London Times*. That gentleman wrote an article with the heading, "What China is asking for," and it is really a *Times* editorial thereon that the new Peking paper demolishes. Such articles are easily made to look ridiculous. No subject was ever generalized over so much as the subject of things Chinese, and even men who do know something about China, as for example Sir ROBERT HART, have not failed to utter stupidities or banalities from time to time. Those men whose business causes it to be expected of them that they shall frequently say something about China cannot resist the temptation, in the absence of any vital issue, to be oracular, because that is easy in writing or talking of China, and there is no way of proving their generalizations to be in error, especially if they stick to remarks like this (from the *Times*): "The Chinese problem is a language problem, and if China herself and the other nations recognise this, the 'Eastern Window' will soon open for light." That might mean anything or nothing, and our Peking contemporary is naughty enough to suggest that it is "merely vapid vapourising in protest against a language and a literature which the writer cannot master." The *Times* clings persistently to the theory that suggests itself, that Japan's victories over China and Russia have made the Chinese discontented with their own educational system. As it says, the Russo-Japanese war "taught them that with Western learning an Asiatic State might victoriously resist one of the greatest of European Powers." To which *Chinese Public Opinion* replies scathingly as follows:

Really? Now this is news to us; We fought Japan it is true, but at the time we were by no means belligerent nor were we anticipating the attack that was made upon us. From the Russo-Japanese war we learned that a nation with an army and navy, of mushroom growth, if assisted by the strongest nation in the world was able to drive out of a leased territory, or rather half of a leased territory, a badly organized army of Europeans, several thousand miles from their base of supplies, by putting into the field a proportion of men and munitions of something more than two to one. They were able to destroy a navy nominally more powerful than their own, by sections and with luck, bad seamanship on the part of their adversaries, tactical hints and telegraphic information from outside sources, aiding them considerably.

That is, we were going to say, a thoroughly Chinese point of view, but on reflection it seems to suggest a little more than that. It reads like a foreign bullet fired from a Chinese gun. There is in that belittlement of a notable achievement, an achievement not managed without much study, patience, and patriotic heroism and self-sacrifice, a suspicion of foreign jealousy. If there is no foreign inspiration about it, it becomes obvious that those were wrong who assumed that China was feverishly setting about

reforms in a spirit of admiration and emulation of the Japanese. We have always reminded our readers that hero-worship of that sort was unlikely to come as from Chinese to Japanese, and the Chinese formula would most likely take this pattern, that "if the Japanese could do so well, we Chinese could do so much better." The *Times* thinks that China is yearning to imitate Japan, but that it lacks the most important qualities that Japan enjoys. "They" (the Chinese) "must either adopt beliefs and habits compatible with the scientific attitude or they must accommodate their own ethical system to that attitude." This it says, because the Chinese, in its view, had "attributed to her acquisition of European arts and sciences results which were, in fact, due to her success in grafting those arts and sciences upon rare moral qualities and habits which are wholly independent of them." This naturally irritates our Peking contemporary, and it irritates a little tirade which we have no trouble in identifying as genuine Chinese.

That Japan has acquired a superficial veneer of European arts and sciences we would not for a moment deny, but that she has grafted them upon "rare moral qualities and habits," we beg leave to doubt. As a matter of fact, judging by our own standards, we were not aware that Japan possessed great "moral qualities and habits." It can scarcely be expected, therefore, that we should seek other standards in order to form conclusions such as this correspondent credits us with making. The gentleman is didactic upon the results which will follow upon a failure to combine the ethics of Japan, or their kin, with Western learning, but seeing that we do not admit his premise we can only say that if the adoption of a Japanese code of morality, ethics and habits is essential to the sound assimilation of Western learning we would rather remain without that most desirable acquisition. As a matter of fact we are more inclined to attribute Japan's success to the grafting of a knowledge of foreign warfare on to a patriotism and a fearlessness of death which is fanatical.

For we find that anti-Japanese outburst, with its significant admission of the Japanese fearless patriotism, followed by a generally anti-foreign passage, which we must admit had provocation. *Chinese Public Opinion* says:

Our habits are perfectly in accord with any phase of Western learning. Our women it is true do not appear, half naked, in public; we can eat our food equally well with chopsticks or with knife and fork; our conversation is, if anything, cleaner than that of the average Westerner; our marital relations and our family life, though not, perhaps, in accord with that established in Europe by a clerical dictatorship, are absolutely honourable and moral according to our beliefs and perfectly compatible with an assimilation of the arts and sciences of European nations.

Our Peking contemporary closes by expressing the opinion that the *Times* is not competent to declare "what China is asking for," and without authority we will file an admission on behalf of our London contemporary. But we will add that Chinese papers appear equally incompetent. The youngest and the wisest of our authorities can do no more than make more or less shrewd guesses. The nearest approach to finality is the hoary and very feeble reflection that "time will show." Meanwhile, it is certainly instructive to be given such glimpses of "Chinese public opinion."

The exhaustive operations undertaken by the naval divers to recover the body of Colonel H. Martin, of Hongkong, who was drowned in the lake at Chusanji, have been abandoned, as there was no hope of their meeting with success.

The ships of the Chiya Squadron which have been visiting Japan left Yokohama on June 10th for Weihaiwei.

NORTHERN PORTS.

(Daily Press, 17th June.)

From the first fascicle of the annual trade reports issued by the Chinese Imperial Maritime Customs, we gather that another Sino-Japanese question is looming up at Antung, the port on the north bank of the River Yalu, in close touch with Chefoo and Dairen. It has a good deal of shipping, both steamers and sea-going junks. Steamers drawing nine feet may anchor off the Bund, or what should be the Bund, according to Mr. Commissioner PALEN, who recommends effort in the direction of river conservancy and improvement. The river is eating away the Chinese town, and in November last it "tore away a liberal piece of the shore off the Japanese settlement." Chinese cargo pays extra in time and money for transportation from the present anchorage. Antung might have "combined railway and cheap water connections," but in the absence of dredging and bunding operations, it looks as if it must be satisfied with railway only. For a bridge is projected to cross the river at the present lower harbour limit, to carry the trains of the Korean railways to the Chinese shore, and to form the connecting link between the Japanese Government-owned lines on the Peninsula and the Antung-Mukden arm of the South Manchuria Railway system. A survey was being made in February, for a fixed bridge 3,182 feet long, with spans of two to three hundred feet, thirty feet wide, and 26 feet above high water. The Chinese have asked that it be made a swing or drawbridge, to allow the shipping to pass. At present the issue is not an urgent one, as the Budget arrangements for an outlay of two and a half million yen may take time; also, the South Manchuria gauge has not yet been changed to standard. Until the Chinese show some disposition to start with the dredging and bunding, and until these other factors are dealt with, there is no need to talk of the unmade bridge as prejudicing the development of the Chinese town, nor to go so far as Mr. PALEN does, when he remarks that "to force across a navigable boundary-line river, in the face of protests from one of the riparian states, a closed bridge of such a height as to hamper that state's sea-going traffic, is not such an act as may be admitted to come within the previously established standards of international comity." This almost amounts to "calamity-howling," and it is strange to find it in such a conservative publication as the I.M.C. Reports have hitherto been. The net value of the trade of Antung for 1907 was Tls. 4,763,238.

The name Dairen (now given to what the Russians called Dalni) is, says Mr. Commissioner KUBOSAWA, "metronymic and deceptive", so far as the Customs is concerned. The Dairen Customs covers more than the port of that name; it embraces the whole of the leased territory of Kwantung. The commercial and economic strength of Dairen, the same gentleman states, has been overestimated. The world, he says, has overestimated the purchasing power of Manchuria. This is very interesting, in view of past events and discussions. "Supposing that the total value of the trade of Manchuria be 80 million taels, this might roughly be divided as follows: Newchwang, 40 millions; Sinminfu, 10 millions; Dairen, 20 millions; Antung and other routes, 10 millions. Two-thirds of these figures will represent the import trade, which, again, denotes the purchasing power of Manchuria. Supposing, further,

that the population of Manchuria is eight millions, as is believed to be approximately the case, this would give a buying power per head of over six and a half taels—a far larger sum than the average native of Manchuria can possibly spend in a year on foreign goods at his present economic stage." The Commissioner concludes that business has been carried on regardless of the law of supply and demand, with the results that sometimes follow speculative enterprise. The market was badly congested. Most of the money left by the belligerents had gone away into Shantung and Chihli. The natural riches of Manchuria are not on the surface; they are not accessible without time, labour, and capital. It must be disastrous to try to force the market. In Dairen itself the foreign community is growing fast. With its railway facilities and magnificent harbour, it undoubtedly has a future as a business emporium, but in 1907 the net value of its trade (for the whole area, presumably) was only Tls. 13,837,739.

In a subsequent article we will examine the reports from other northern ports, for items of similar outstanding interest.

(Daily Press, 18th June.)

Yesterday we quoted some interesting comments on the Manchurian market for foreign goods from the pen of Mr. Commissioner KUROSAWA of Dairen. In the same book, less than a dozen pages further on, Mr. Commissioner CLARKE at Newchwang offers opinions almost directly contrary, as to the consuming capacity of Manchuria. We cannot do better than quote the whole of his opening paragraph, long as it is:—

In the market reports and newspaper paragraphs which have appeared during the past year, and in the inquiries about trade in Manchuria which have reached the Commissioner of Customs, there has commonly been a note of impatience with Manchuria and with Newchwang that the expectations of trade have not been fulfilled. It is true that everybody underestimated the result of war, both the immediate effect and the after effect—the destruction of property, the interruption of work and business, the increased cost of living which followed the occupation of the country by armies,—and forgot that the time of business prosperity is not just after war has ceased. Manchuria has not recovered even so fast as the least sanguine expected, and has not been able to absorb rapidly the large quantities of goods imported in anticipation of great demand. All this may be admitted. Yet if it were possible to get statistics of all the goods imported through Dairen in the eight months between the closing of Newchwang, in 1906 and the opening of the Dairen Customs in 1907, and combine them with the Newchwang statistics and the statistics of Dairen since July, it is probable that it would be found that Manchuria has purchased more than people think. But trade has not followed altogether the same route as hitherto. A considerable part of the cotton goods, yarn, and sugar, not to mention miscellaneous goods, have come from or through Japan instead of through Shanghai. It would seem wholly unnecessary to repeat that Newchwang is not the only port of entry into Manchuria and that its trade is not now a fair index of the trade of the country, yet the Commissioner often receives inquiries based on the idea that there has been no change. The old order of things has disappeared. There are now five ports having railway communication with the interior. Imports are no longer piled up at Newchwang to be worked off during the winter, nor are exports accumulated here for spring shipment. No doubt the saving of storage, insurance, and interest thus effected will benefit the consumer, but the change makes a great difference in the character of Newchwang trade. Cart traffic for long distance transport has been superseded largely by railway carriage,

and the latter by competition will become, if it is not now, cheaper. There are 17 places in the interior, technically called inland trade marts, viz., Moukden, Sinminfu, Tieling, Tungkiangtz, Fakumen, Fenghuangcheng, Liangyang, Kanchengtz, Kirin, Harbin, Ningkuta, Hunchun, Sinsing, Tsitsihar, Manchouli, Hailar, and Aigun, to which duty-paid goods, both foreign and native, can be sent by boat, cart, or railway without further payment of duty. The railways have worked great changes, for without them new ports would have had no chance; and the changes are not yet complete, for the railways will before long provide better facilities than they do now. The widening of the gauge of the South Manchurian Railway will assist its traffic, and of course the present inferior train service will be improved. The company plans to bring its lines a mile or two nearer Newchwang than the present terminus at Midschintun, and has made its freight rates the same from Newchwang as from Dairen. The Imperial Railway of North China has shown itself a strong competitor, and while keeping rates down has yet made profit. The Chinese Eastern Railway is turning its attention to developing traffic, and Chinese merchants at Harbin are negotiating for a scale of rates from Shanghai to Vladivostok which will enable them to get cargo by that route reasonably. Incidentally it may be of interest to say that the distance to Harbin from Vladivostok is 485 miles; from Newchwang, 473 miles; and from Dairen, 615 miles; to Kwangchengtz, from Vladivostok, 635 miles; from Newchwang, 331 miles; and from Dairen, 615 miles. What is the conclusion to be drawn? All this will assist greatly the development of the country, and it also means that not one but several places will have a share in the result of that development. There must also be a change in the method of conducting business in foreign goods. Agents on the spot have become necessary. This is not an academic official statement of the kind which irritates merchants as coming from someone who would teach them their business: it is the necessary consequence of competition in Manchuria instead of at Shanghai. There is no need to enlarge upon this. Three, at least, large corporations have proved its value. If a branch of trade is valuable, somebody will find it worth his while to displace an article which nobody looks after. Japanese cotton cloth in short lengths and narrow widths like native cloth would not have been imported to the extent it has been, to the injury of the native cloth trade, if it had not been pushed into the notice of buyers.

At Newchwang the business of the year has been disappointing, figures appended show a great decline in trade, especially in the import of native goods, from the previous year. For fully half the year business was very dull; by August it had begun to revive, and September and October increased the hope of good steady trade; but early in November occurred the failure of the large Cantonese firm, Tung Sheng Ho, and four connected firms, with liabilities of some 4 million taels. The bankrupt had been engaged in all the kinds of business which the port offers; he was a manufacturer of bean oil and bean cake; an exporter of grains, beans oil and cake; an owner and charterer of ships; an importer of piece goods, yarn, sugar, and flour; a banker; a speculator in land etc. The best authority states that his books had not been made up for nine years, a length of time which includes the Boxer year and the Russo-Japanese war. He could not have gone on so long nor spread out in so many directions but for the facilities which the "transfer" system of banking offers. In the opinion of many this failure gave a striking demonstration of the unsoundness of the system and afforded a good opportunity to suppress it. Some efforts have been made to press this view on the Chinese officials; but it is fair to add that opinion is not unanimous on the abolition of transfer money, and there are those who hold that we have witnessed only an abuse of credit. At the same time it is not denied that a system which lends itself so readily to abuse is dangerous. For a while the failure brought business to a standstill. The local authorities issued a notice urging merchants not to part with their money, and though this was explained later on to mean a warning against creating a scarcity of ready money by shipping it to other places,

it was understood to mean that nobody was to make payments or advance money. For some days no business of any kind was done. Ships lay idle in the river; charterers could not pay the charter money; shippers could not pay for produce already bought, nor could they find ready money to pay duty on purchases already paid for. An arrangement was soon made by which the guilds guaranteed duties, and that difficulty was removed. Presently money began to arrive from other places, and the wheels of business revolved once more. A promise of government assistance to the bankrupt's available assets aided in restoring confidence. Naturally the affair created great distrust and was a serious blow to the port's prospects; but there is no reason to suppose that business, taken as a whole, is not on a sound footing. All China is suffering from the inevitable reaction after a period of prosperity. That, in all probability, is a greater cause of difficulty than local conditions, though of these Newchwang has had its share to contend with. But the conditions produced by war have about passed away, and 1908 should prove a fairer test than the year just passed. The country is prosperous; except for a trip running east and west with, roughly, Tieling for its centre, the crops of the past season have been good. At present, it is true, no new lines of trade are opening up which will benefit the port, but the opinion of those best qualified to judge is that the old channels will provide moderate prosperity in spite of the competition of other ports.

We need not comment on these opposing views, further than to suggest that both commissioners may be right in their several ways. Mr. KUROSAWA gives figures in support of his opinion, and Mr. CLARKE goes some way with him. Probably Manchuria will before long be buying more foreign goods than Mr. KUROSAWA suggests, while it is in every way likely that it will never be the Tiddlers Ground for trade that many people have expected it to be. The net value of Newchwang's trade is given as Tls. 32,294,663.

At Tientsin, Mr. Commissioner MERRILL is not so much concerned with Manchuria as one would expect. He reports an unprofitable year, due to excessive speculation and long credits, with overstocking, and bad markets for Tientsin exports. The depreciation of the copper coinage lessened the demand for foreign goods, and though Mr. MERRILL does not like to say so outright it is clear that he recognises the suicidal methods of the provincial mints. This over-issue of copper currency for immediate profits punishes the poorer classes severely. There is an interesting reference to the introduction of the thin end of the wedge of popular representation at Tientsin, but so far the new municipal government does not seem to have made much progress. The net value of Tientsin's trade is put at Tls. 96,778,966, and that of Chinwangtao at Tls. 5,293,870.

Chefoo, according to Mr. Commissioner UNWIN has become a secondary port serving a restricted hinterland. Here again we find references to over-trading, due to too sanguine expectations following the war, unstable currency and a glutted market had sad results. The net value of the trade fell from thirty-nine million taels in 1905 and thirty-four millions in 1906 to Tls. 28,646,513.

Mr. Commissioner OHLMEY of Kiaochow also refers to the depreciation of copper coins as causing a set-back to the import trade, another factor being the absence in this district of subsidiary currency under the face value of ten-cash. In two years the export trade of Tsingtau has increased nearly 75 per cent, until now about half the value of its imports. The net value is put at Tls. 28,637,889.

HOITY-TOITY.

(Daily Press, 19th June)

With every possible feeling of sympathy for the Volunteer movement, we read and gladly published Lieut.-Colonel CHAPMAN's letter in our Thursday morning issue, inviting recruits for the local Volunteers. Unfortunately we omitted one word from his opening quotation, thereby, as he afterwards said, materially altering the sense. The quotation should correctly have read as follows,

"The first duty of every able-bodied citizen is not only to be ready to defend his country in time of war but to prepare himself for that duty in time of peace. Englishmen alone amongst all the Nations of the World shirk this duty. I trust the splendid example of our Australian Colonies, in making every able-bodied Australian serve in the National Guard, will bring home to us a sense of our shame."

We have done our best to rectify our innocent error, which, differing with Lieut.-Colonel CHAPMAN, we do not regard as materially altering the sense. Be that as it may, we wish now to say that with or without the missing word, there was no sense in the passage to alter. It was a mere impertinence by the doubtless well-meaning Lieut.-Col. Hon. L. P. DAWNAY. Who, we ask,—and we ask on behalf of those numerous able-bodied men who entertain different views of their first duty—who is the Hon. L. P. DAWNAY, that he should constitute himself a judge over us, that he should describe us as shirkers, and picture us as living in a state of unrecognised shamefulness? We know Lieut.-Col. CHAPMAN, and knowing his ideal and ambition, can forgive him his endorsement of that impertinence. In spite of his precisianism over the missing word, we suppose he did not weigh the words of the whole passage, which doubtless appeared to him only as a striking text for the little sermon he wished to give us. Possibly the Hon. L. P. DAWNAY did not write for publication when he bemired the whole of his compatriots who are not just as militant as himself, but he must stand by what he has said, and we consider he said a little too much. The first duty of every able-bodied citizen is not to make an efficient soldier of himself, but to make an efficient citizen. An efficient citizen is one who brings reason and what is called conscience to bear in a study of all things pertaining to citizenship, to avoid mob passions and prejudices, to keep a cool head in face of party clamour, to loyally support those whom he has himself put in authority, to pay his due contributions to the state, and to see that he gets value for his money. Value for his money includes the provision and maintenance of an effective army and navy, for use when required, but one of the citizen's first duties is to make sure that his professional fighters are required before he calls upon them. That is, he should not be anxious for war except in undoubtedly right causes and serious necessities. War cannot be avoided; the Lord hasn't given peace in our time yet; but it is not such an ever-present peril and such an inevitable evil as it used to be. One of the few good points in the alleged progress of civilization is that we are gradually ceasing to glory in our primal pugnacity, that we are gradually becoming ashamed of killing. That is why the more advanced races, instead of conscription and universal military service, employ specially trained and paid fighters. The army and the navy afford careers for men who have no conscientious objection to killing their fellow men in the way of duty. This is a crude way of putting it, but it is necessary in order to arrive at a

perception of the truth. It is not altered by the admitted facts that our soldiers and sailors glow with patriotism as well as with the lust for conquest.

With regard to Lieut.-Colonel CHAPMAN's letter, we have to add that "the fact that H. M. Navy and Army are so splendidly represented here" does relieve the civilian from his "individual responsibility," defining the last as Lieut.-Colonel CHAPMAN defines it. The enormous military contribution paid by this Colony is quite enough to excuse the absence of any volunteers at all. Is it reasonable, in the homely phrase, that we should keep a dog and do our own barking? Especially when it is such a splendid dog, and costs us so much money. We think that the Hon. L. P. DAWNAY's remarks cannot "well be applied to this Colony," even though it be peculiarly liable to attack. To begin with, it is not to be described as "the country" of the Hongkong "citizen." He could not possibly experience any "pro patria" feeling for it. Then what is the extent of his citizenship? What rights has he? The right to conduct his business in the safety secured by the garrison? True, but he pays for that. He has bought it with a big share of his hard-earned profits. Has he any voice, any effective voice, in the government? No. He is subject, just like any vassal, to the undivided authority of the Crown. It is infamous to accuse him of shirking his duties until he be given the privileges that involve duties. If the Commandant wants volunteers (and we honestly hope, in spite of what we have said, that he will get them) he must use other arguments than those of the monumentally cheeky Hon. L. P. DAWNAY.

HONGKONG LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.

A meeting of the Hongkong Legislative Council was held on June 18th in the Council Chamber.

PRESENT:—

HIS EXCELLENCY THE GOVERNOR, SIR FREDERICK JOHN DEALTRY LUGARD, K.C.M.G., C.B., D.S.O.

HIS EXCELLENCY MAJOR-GENERAL BROADWOOD, (General Officer Commanding).

Hon. Mr. F. H. MAY, C.M.G., (Colonial Secretary).

Hon. Mr. W. REES DAVIES, K.C., (Attorney-General).

Hon. Mr. L. A. M. JOHNSTON (Colonial Treasurer).

Hon. Mr. W. CHATHAM, C.M.G. (Director of Public Works).

Hon. Mr. E. A. IRVING (Registrar-General).

Hon. Commander BASIL R. H. TAYLOR, R.N., (Harbour Master).

Hon. Dr. HO KAI, M.B., C.M., C.M.G.

Hon. Sir HENRY BERKELEY, K.C.

Hon. Mr. H. E. POLLOCK, K.C.

Hon. Mr. WEI YUK.

Hon. Mr. H. W. SLADE.

Hon. Mr. MURRAY STEWART.

Mr. C. CLEMENTI (Clerk of Councils).

MINUTES.

The minutes of the previous meeting were read, and confirmed.

FINANCIAL MINUTES.

The COLONIAL SECRETARY, by direction of H. E. the Governor, laid on the table Financial minutes Nos. 25, 26, 27 and 28 and moved that they be referred to the Finance Committee.

The COLONIAL TREASURER seconded, and the resolution was agreed to.

RESOLUTION UNDER THE PUBLIC HEALTH ORDINANCE.

The COLONIAL SECRETARY moved the following resolution under Section 170 of the Public Health and Buildings Ordinance, 1905, (Ordinance No. 1 of 1903).—"Whereas application has been duly made by the Sanitary Board to the Governor under Section 167 of the

Public Health and Buildings Ordinance 1903 for the erection of a public latrine on the site now occupied by No. 1 Chuk Hing Lane; and whereas such application having been approved by the Governor and a notification of the intention to erect a public latrine upon such site having been duly published in three successive numbers of the Gazette, certain owners of property in the immediate vicinity of such site have objected to such erection; and whereas the objections so made have been considered by this Council; It is hereby resolved by this Council that the above mentioned site and the erection thereon of a public latrine be approved." He said—In connection with this resolution correspondence referring to the subject has been circulated to hon. members and no doubt they have made themselves fully acquainted with the aspects of the case. As far back as 1906 the erection of a latrine in this particular health district, No. 4, was recommended by the Civil Medical Officer of Health and the Sanitary Board endorsed that recommendation and a site was selected by the Medical Officer of Health after investigation as to the other suitable sites in the district in question. The necessary formalities have been complied with and the site has been resumed by the Government for the purpose in view. The objections which are printed in the paper have been made by certain residents in the vicinity. With regard to these objections I can only say that I presume everybody would rather not have a latrine near his dwelling if it could be avoided. At the same time latrines are necessities. The Sanitary Board has on several occasions urged the Government to increase the supply of public latrines and in pursuance of the policy which has been followed in recent years—the Government sets aside annually a certain sum for the extension of the number of public latrines—it is proposed to erect a latrine in this district which, as members know, is in the very heart of the city of Victoria and is very crowded. There is no open space there upon which a latrine under ideal conditions could be erected. It is therefore to meet a necessity that the site be acquired and the public latrine be erected thereon. I may say that the original proposal was to erect a latrine with 40 seats—that was recommended by the Sanitary Board—but that has been modified and the latrine proposed will contain sixteen seats only. The first proposal was for a two storey building but the present one is a one storey building. Therefore there would be far more open space surround the new building than there would surround the other. I have said, I think, all that is necessary in support of the resolution and I trust the Council will approve of it.

The DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC WORKS—I beg to second the resolution. In doing so, I would point out that it is practically impossible for the Government to provide large open spaces around these places, the value of the land being so high and practically every portion of land in the central district of the city being already fully occupied. In the present case, Sir, the cost for the resumption alone has been about \$300 per seat accommodation. It seems to me it would become a very serious task to provide accommodation to anything like the extent it ought to be provided throughout the city.

The HON. DR. HO KAI—Before this resolution is put to the Council I think we are entitled to more information for the subject in order to enable members of this Council to give their votes in an intelligent manner. Here we have an application by the Sanitary Board for the erection of a latrine in a certain locality, the fact has been advertised in compliance with and section 168 of the Public Health Ordinance, and certain objections were sent in by the neighbours. One or two of the objections seem to me very cogent, and I should like to have some reference to these from the Government so that we may know that the objections have been well considered and answered. I hold in my hand a print of one of the letters sent in by the neighbours. It is dated 2nd May. It states:—“(1) The site is situated in a narrow lane surrounded by the back of tall houses of three stories high. The stench, the obnoxious flies and other evils attendant on a public latrine will particularly affect the kitchens of these

immediately surrounding houses where human food is prepared. (2) The owners of these immediately surrounding houses have, recently, in compliance with the requirements of the Sanitary Board, opened more windows in these premises directly facing the said site; with the object of letting in pure and fresh air into these houses; but if a public latrine is erected, which would be directly opposite to their windows, they will have bad and vitiated air instead." I wish to draw attention to No. 2, which seems to be a very strong objection. We all know that the Government has called upon house owners to open windows at the rear of their premises in order to get sufficient air and now the Government by the erection of this latrine is compelling them to open their windows to admit vitiated air. This requires every consideration and I should be only too pleased to hear the Government's answer to this. I quite admit that latrines are necessary but the sites have to be carefully selected and from a study of the plan I am of opinion that the site is as bad as it well can be. First of all it is in the centre of a block of houses. In one direction it measures 30 feet, in another 27ft. 2in., the breadth is 22ft. 9 in one direction and 19ft 2 in another. As it is right in the middle of a block of houses & it seems to me both harmful and insanitary. I think the Government before proceeding with this resolution might consider the objections which have been raised. I would like to see the minutes of the Medical Officer of Health or the Sanitary Board before I record my vote.

The Hon. Mr. WEI YUK—I second that.

The COLONIAL SECRETARY—Sir, this is one of those questions which the Sanitary Board has been constituted to deal with. The Sanitary Board has thoroughly investigated this question and it has recommended that this latrine be built on this site. That decision was arrived at after the fullest investigation by the Medical Officer of Health and, as I have already explained, it is impossible in the heart of this populous city, except at prohibitive expense, to get a site that will be surrounded by large spaces of air on all sides. There are a great many latrines in the city of Victoria—I have here a map showing the latrines in this particular part—and every one of them is theoretically open to the very same objection that the senior unofficial member has urged against this particular one. It is a very small latrine and the fact that it is in a side lane is in its favour. If it fronted on to a public street it would be more of a nuisance than where it is. There is nothing inherently insanitary about a well kept latrine. There may be a certain odour arising from it but I think I can state on the highest authority that under the efficient system of supervision which obtains in this city no effluvia will escape that is in any sense dangerous to health. As regards the other things mentioned they can be obviated by proper removal of the contents of the latrine. I don't think that any serious objection has been shown against this latrine that could not be shown against dozens of other latrines in the city. If these objections are to weigh against the institution of this latrine then all I can say is that many other latrines would have to be condemned as insanitary and thus make the provision of future latrines practically an impossibility. I commend this resolution with confidence to the Council. It is a baby in the latrine family which is sponsored by the Sanitary Board, and if the Sanitary Board cannot guide us in matters of this kind I don't know what this Council can do.

On the resolution being put to the vote,

HIS EXCELLENCY declared that the ayes had it, but the Hon. Dr. HO KAI asked for a division which resulted as follows:—

For the resolution—Hon. Mr. Slade, hon. Sir Henry Berkeley, hon. Mr. Murray Stewart, hon. Mr. Pollock, Harbour Master, Registrar General, Director of Public Works, Colonial Treasurer, Attorney-General, Colonial Secretary, His Excellency the General.

Against the resolution—Hon. Dr. Ho Kai and Hon. Mr. Wei Yuk.

THE APPROPRIATION BILL.

The COLONIAL SECRETARY moved the third reading of the Bill entitled An Ordinance to authorize the appropriation of a supplementary sum of one hundred and sixty-six thousand seven hundred and thirty-five dollars and eight

five cents, to defray the charges of the year 1907.

The COLONIAL TREASURER seconded and the motion was agreed to.

CHEMISTS AND DRUGGISTS ORDINANCE.

The ATTORNEY GENERAL moved that the Council go into Committee on the Bill entitled An Ordinance to provide for the registration of Chemists and Druggists and to regulate the Sale of Poisons.

The COLONIAL SECRETARY seconded and the motion was agreed to.

The ATTORNEY GENERAL said that the committee was adjourned on the last occasion to enable certain amendments to be framed to clause 11. He had an opportunity of drafting amendments which would meet with the approval of the gentlemen concerned.

The Bill passed through committee and there being no objection the Bill was also read a third time.

THE PUBLIC HEALTH ORDINANCE.

HIS EXCELLENCY—The committee stage on the Public Health and Buildings Ordinance stands next on the orders of the day. An hour or two before the meeting of this Council I received a letter from the Chief Justice commenting on certain aspects of the debate which took place in this Council last week. The receipt of that letter raises a constitutional point which I think deserves a serious consideration, and although I have given the matter in conjunction with the Attorney General my most careful consideration up to the last moment before the assembling of the Council I think it better to postpone the committee stage until next meeting of the Council.

Hon. Sir HENRY BRUCE—Do you postpone consideration of the entire Bill?

HIS EXCELLENCY—Yes. The only remaining clause is the one proposed by yourself. The Council stands adjourned until Thursday next.

FINANCE COMMITTEE.

A meeting of the Finance Committee was held after the Council—the Colonial Secretary presiding. The following votes were passed:

PUBLIC WORKS EXTRAORDINARY.

The Governor recommended the Council to vote a sum of six thousand seven hundred dollars (\$6,000) in aid of the vote, Public Works Extraordinary, Saiyingpun Anglo-Chinese School Extension.

The Governor recommended the Council to vote a sum of one thousand seven hundred dollars (\$1,700) in aid of the vote, Public Works Extraordinary, 11 Victoria British School—Additional Storey to Quarters.

WATER WORKS.

The Governor recommended the Council to vote a sum of eight thousand five hundred dollars (\$8,500) in aid of the vote, Public Works Extraordinary, Miscellaneous Water Works.

PUBLIC WORKS RECURRENT.

The Governor recommended the Council to vote a sum of six thousand five hundred dollars (\$6,500) in aid of the vote, Public Works Recurrent, Maintenance of Kowloon Water Works.

OPIUM SMOKERS.

The following paper entitled "Calculation of the percentages of opium smokers in China, Szechuan and Hongkong" was laid on the table at the Legislative Council yesterday:

A lurid picture has frequently been drawn, especially in recent times, of the prevalence of opium smoking throughout China. For example, to quote only from a number of printed papers which reached me by last mail, Bishop Hoare of Hongkong has stated that the opium trade "increases the incalculable misery of millions of our fellows and tends to a grievous deterioration of a noble race." The Rev. Dr. Griffith John asserts that "opium is not only robbing the Chinese of millions of money, year by year, but is actually destroying them as a people." Mr. George Cadbury speaks of the opium trade as "demoralising a heathen nation for the sake of revenue." The Rev. R. F. Horton remarks that "we are all perfectly well aware that opium is the cause of unutterable misery and destruction to the Chinese." Finally Mr. Theodore C. Taylor, M.P., is good enough to say that "from the point of view

of reform the blackest opium spots in China are the spots under British rule," while the whole assumption underlying the speeches, made at a breakfast meeting at the Hotel Cecil, London, on the 28th of last February (fully reported in the issue of "National Righteousness," dated April, 1908), was that the Chinese, as a nation, were demoralized and ruined by their addiction to the habit of opium smoking.

No doubt, in justification of such an opinion, it would be possible to refer to Article 2 of the Proposals in Ten Articles for carrying out the Opium Edict of the 20th September, 1906, which commences as follows:—"The vice of opium smoking is of long standing, and it may be reckoned that some 30 to 40 per cent. of the population are addicted thereto." It, therefore, becomes desirable to consider what are the real facts as to the prevalence of opium smoking, and in this memorandum an endeavour is made to calculate the percentages of opium smokers (1) in China as a whole, (2) in the province of Szech'uan, where admittedly opium smoking is heavier than in any other part of China, and (3) in Hongkong.

(1.) *Percentage of opium smokers in China as a whole.*—Sir John Jordan, in the first paragraph of his general report on opium, dated in November, 1907, states that the population of China "is generally estimated at four hundred millions." Further on in the same report he writes:—"The amount of opium produced in China in 1906 has been estimated at 33,400 piculs. Of this total only 4,730 piculs are exported to Foreign Countries. Foreign raw opium imported in the same year was as follows:—

	Piculs.	
Malwa	14,465	Indian,
Patna	25,486	
Banars	13,479	
Other kinds	795	

Total 54,225 piculs.

"Thus China may be said to have required for her own consumption in 1906:—

	Piculs.
Native opium	325,270
Foreign opium	54,225

Total 379,425

"or 50,599,333 lbs. weight, or 22,588 tons, of which about one seventh comes from India. As opium is always retailed in taels, I may add that one picul equals 1,600 taels. Therefore, 379,425 piculs equal 607,192,000 taels.

Now no person can be considered a confirmed opium smoker unless he consumes about Tls. 0.2 of prepared opium per diem. I have intentionally taken a very low figure, in order that the resulting percentage may be the highest possible: but, as a matter of fact, Sir J. Jordan, writing on the 14th August, 1907, states that "a smoker of Tls. 0.3 weight a day of Indian opium requires Tls. 0.4 of Chinese opium to produce the same effect," the assumption being that a confirmed opium smoker will consume twice the weight which I have adopted for purposes of this calculation. Estimating, therefore, a total annual consumption of 607,192,000 taels, the daily consumption will be 1,663,539 taels; and allowing Tls. 0.2 for each smoker per diem, it results that there are 8,317,695 persons who smoke opium in the Chinese Empire. Curiously enough these figures agree closely with the statement made by Sir J. Jordan in a despatch to the Foreign Office, dated the 30th September, 1906, in which he writes, that the opium habit has "gained a firm hold upon 8,000,000 of the adult population of the Empire," although at that date the British Minister at Peking could not as yet have been in possession of the figures quoted in his report of November, 1907.

Assuming, then, that the total population of the Empire is 400,000,000, of whom 8,000,000 are opium smokers, the number of persons who smoke opium in the Chinese Empire is only 2 per cent. But I must point out that even this percentage is far too high: for 607,192,000 taels is the weight of raw opium before preparation, whereas Tls. "2 is the weight of prepared opium as consumed. Now the Government Analyst at Hongkong has recently reported that raw opium by preparation loses 50 per cent. of its weight: therefore, the amount of prepared opium actually consumed

will only be half the weight of the raw opium, i.e., the daily consumption of prepared opium in China will be 831,768.5 taels and the number of opium smokers falls to 4,158,847, or only about one per cent. of the total population of the Chinese Empire. The conclusion of the matter is, therefore, this: that, supposing the consumption of opium in China to be twice as large as that estimated by Sir J. Jordan, or in other words making a most liberal, and even excessive, allowance for smuggling, and for such persons as may consume less than 7 lbs. 0.2 per diem, opium smokers are only 2 per cent. of the population.

(1.) *Percentage of opium smokers in Szechuan Province.*—Sir J. Jordan reports that the production of opium in Szechuan is 200,000 piculs annually, "of which 182,000 are consumed in the province, practically no foreign opium entering this part of China." In another part of the same report Sir J. Jordan points out that "Szechuan alone produces close on two-thirds" of the total opium production in China. He adds that "the population of the province is estimated at 45,000,000, and Sir A. Hosie is of opinion "that 17 per cent. of the adults and 7 per cent. of the entire population are addicted to opium smoking." Sir J. Jordan does not state upon what data Sir A. Hosie arrived at his conclusion, but arguing from the figures which he has himself supplied, it follows that 182,000 piculs of raw opium will boil down into 91,000 piculs of prepared opium, or 145,600,000 taels, implying a daily consumption of 398,904 taels. Assuming once more that each smoker consumes 7 lbs. 0.2 per diem, it results that there are 1,994,521 opium smokers in Szechuan, i.e., 4.4 per cent. of the whole population.

If it is true that 7 per cent. of the whole population smoke opium, then, as 3,150,000 persons consume daily 398,904 taels of opium, it follows that each opium smoker will consume only 7 lbs. 0.126 per diem i.e., about one-fourth of the amount estimated by Sir J. Jordan in his despatch of 14th August, 1907, or in the alternative that 231,096 taels more than the amount estimated by Sir J. Jordan are consumed in Szechuan daily.

(3.) *Percentage of opium smokers in Hongkong.*—Here we no longer deal with estimates, but with accurate figures. According to the Census returns of 1906 the Chinese population of the Colony was as follows:—

Males over 15 years...	195,541
Total males	224,236
Females over 15 years	66,844
Total females	95,567
Grand total (exclusive of New Territories)	319,903

Total population of that part of the New Territories not included in the above figures, as estimated in 1901 ... 85,011

Therefore, the grand total of the Chinese population in the Colony and its New Territories was 319,903 + 85,011 = 404,914; and the total number of males and females over 15 years of age in the Colony (excluding the New Territories, for which figures are not available) was 195,541 + 66,844 = 262,384.

Now the only person in the Colony and its New Territories, from whom prepared opium and dross opium can be bought, is the Opium Farmer; and as the result of a detailed examination of the Opium Farmer's account books in May, 1908, it was ascertained that during 14 months commencing from the 1st April, 1907 an average weight of 30,788.32 taels of dross opium had been supplied monthly to dross opium divans; that an average weight of 18,487.392 taels of prepared opium had been supplied monthly to prepared opium divans, and that an average weight of 27,701.23 taels of prepared opium had been supplied monthly to customers for consumption in the Colony and the New Territories outside divans. Assuming, therefore, a month of 30.41 days it follows that the average daily consumption was:

(a) 1,012.44 taels of dross opium in divans;
(b) 607.937 taels of prepared opium in divans;
(c) 910.925 taels of prepared opium outside divans. And, assuming further that (a) a dross smoker consumes 2 pots, weighing 0.07 taels each, of dross opium per diem; and (b) that a smoker of prepared opium consumes 2 pots, weighing 0.042 taels, of prepared opium per diem, (both those figures being taken as low as possible in order that the percentages calculated may be the highest possible, though it is well

known that confirmed opium smokers and those to whom the habit is deleterious consume far more), the following figures result:—

(i.) The number of persons who smoke dross opium is $\frac{1,012}{.14} = 7,228.5$

(ii.) The number of persons who smoke prepared opium in divans is $\frac{607.937}{.084} = 7,237.3$

(iii.) The number of persons who smoke prepared opium outside divans is $\frac{910.925}{.084} = 10,844.3$

(iv.) The total number of opium smokers is, therefore, 25,310.1.

I may add that dross opium is sold by the Opium Farmer to divans only, and not to the general public, and that it is, therefore, impossible to differentiate between persons who smoke dross opium inside and outside divans.

The following percentages result from these data:—

(i.) Percentage of opium smokers in the total Chinese population (including the New Territories):—

(a.) dross smokers 1.785 per cent.

(b.) prepared opium smokers in divans 1.787 per cent.

(c.) prepared opium smokers outside divans 2.678 per cent.

The total ratio is, therefore, 6.25 per cent.

(ii.) Percentage of opium smokers in the adult male and female Chinese population (excluding the New Territories):—

(a.) dross smokers 2.754 per cent.

(b.) prepared opium smokers in divans 2.758 per cent.

(c.) prepared opium smokers outside divans 4.132 per cent.

The total ratio is, therefore, 9.644 per cent.

(iii.) Percentage of opium smokers in the Chinese male population over 15 years of age (excluding the New Territories):—

(a.) dross smokers 3.696 per cent.

(b.) prepared opium smokers in divans 3.701 per cent.

(c.) prepared opium smokers outside divans 5.545 per cent.

The total ratio is, therefore, 12.942 per cent.

I desire again to state emphatically that these are the highest possible percentages; and that the true percentage is probably at least one-third lower than the figures above given, for it is certain that prepared opium and dross opium smokers as a rule consume much more than 0.4 taels and 14 taels respectively per diem. In this connection the present Opium Farmer's secretary, Ch'an K'ai-meng, made the following statements to me on the 12th instant, namely that all dross smokers are confirmed opium smokers, otherwise, as he puts it they would not smoke dross opium: that a dross smoker consumes on the average 3 pots, i.e., 7 lbs. 0.21, of dross opium per diem; that most habitués of prepared opium divans are confirmed opium smokers; that prepared opium smokers fall into three groups:—

(a.) coolies: of these there are only a few, and they would probably smoke 2 pots, i.e., 7 lbs. 0.084, of prepared opium and a pot of dross opium in addition.

(b.) head-coolies and the poorer class of shopkeepers: these would consume at least 7 lbs. 0.3 per diem.

(c.) well-to-do Chinese: these would consume from 7 lbs. 0.3 per diem upwards; 7 lbs. 0.5 would not be unusual; some smoke as much as one tael a day and he has known a man who smoked two taels a day.

Mr. Ch'an added that 7 lbs. 0.3 of prepared opium is about the average dose in all classes. It will be seen, therefore, that in assuming the daily consumption of each smoker to be 7 lbs. 0.14 of dross opium and 7 lbs. 0.084 of prepared opium, I have taken very low figures. Any increase in them will, of course, decrease the percentages of opium smokers in the population as above calculated. Mr. Ch'an gave it as his opinion that about 10 per cent. of the adult male population were opium smokers—a lower and more probable estimate than the 12.942 per cent. calculated in the preceding paragraph. He also said that in Hongkong scarcely any women smoke opium.

In confirmation of these figures I may add that, in a letter dated the 4th instant the Chief Detective Inspector reports that of 1,316 Chinese employed on the railway tunnel at

Kowloon (646 being coolies), 127 smoke opium: that there are 51 licensed chairs in the Hill District, carried by 100 men, none of whom smoke opium: that there are 624 licensed chairs in Victoria, carried by 1,288 men, of whom 113 smoke opium; that there are 1,225 licensed jinrickshaws in Victoria and Quarry Bay, driven by 3,450 men, of whom 74 smoke opium: and that there are 250 licensed jinrickshaws in Kowloon, driven by 251 men, of whom 24 smoke opium.

These figures speak for themselves, and they go far to show that the outcry, which has been raised as to the prevalence of the opium habit among Chinese, has really no justification in fact, and add one more proof of the platitude that on the subject of opium smoking there is more loose thinking and loose writing, both among Chinese and Europeans than on almost any other of the curious features which Chinese civilization presents to Western minds. It remains to apply the figures to the special question of the abolition of opium divans in Hongkong, and in this connection it is necessary to premise that the abolition of divans will cost money, and to recapitulate the facts that practically all smokers of dross opium are slaves of the habit; that the large majority of persons who smoke prepared opium in divans are also slaves of the habit; that after the abolition of divans the Opium Farmer will continue, as heretofore, to possess the right of selling prepared and dross opium to the general public; and that, even under existing conditions, an average monthly weight of 27,701.229 taels of prepared opium is sold by the Farmer for consumption in the Colony for outside divans. It is not to be supposed that a half, probably not even a quarter, of the persons, who previously smoked in divans will forego their daily allowance of opium when the divans have been closed. Therefore, as I have shown that the number of dross smokers is at most 1.785 per cent. and that of prepared opium smokers in divans at most 1.757 per cent. of the total Chinese population, the number of persons whom the abolition of divans may cure of the opium habit is certainly less than a half, and probably not even a quarter, of 3.582 per cent. of the total Chinese population. In order, then, that certainly less than 1.791 per cent. and probably not even 0.395 per cent. of the total Chinese population may perhaps be delivered from the vice of opium smoking, a tax, in payment of compensation to the Opium Farmer and to divan keepers and in loss of revenue, must be imposed on the remaining 98.209 per cent. or 99.105 per cent. of the Chinese, and upon the whole non-Chinese population of the Colony. Further than this, at least 7,232, and probably more than 10,848, divan habitués, whom the abolition of divans leaves unregenerate, will not, as hitherto smoke opium in premises where they are under the direct control of the Police and Sanitary Departments, but will be free to smoke in any place they choose, to the probable detriment of the good order and sanitation of the Colony.

Therefore, to sum up, the abolition of opium divans in Hongkong means this:—

(a) That certainly no more than 7,232, and probably not even 3,616 persons (perhaps not even a single person) may give up opium smoking.

(b) That this result will be achieved at a cost which would not have been greater had all the habitués of divans i.e., some 14,465 persons, given up opium smoking.

(c) That this cost will fall mainly upon 98.75 per cent. of Chinese population, who do not smoke opium, and upon the whole non-Chinese community.

(d) That at least 7,232, and probably more than 10,848 confirmed opium smokers will be debarred from smoking in the divans, of which they are habitués, and will thus in large measure be released from police and sanitary supervision.

C. CLEMENTI,

Assistant Colonial Secretary.

Hongkong, 12th June, 1908.

APPENDIX A.

The last Chinese official census of the population, taken in 1904, gives the following figure:—

Eighteen Provinces.

Kwang Tung ...	31,865,251
Fukien ...	22,876,540
Chekiang ...	11,580,692
Kiangsu ...	13,980,235

5. Shantung ...	38,247,910
Chihli ...	20,937,000
Hupei ...	35,280,685
Kiangsi ...	26,532,125
Anhui ...	23,670,314
10. Honan ...	35,316,800
Hunan ...	22,169,673
Kansu ...	10,385,376
Shensi ...	8,450,182
Shansi ...	12,200,456
15. Szechwan ...	63,724,890
Yunnan ...	12,324,574
Kweichow ...	7,650,282
Kwang-i ...	5,142,330
	407,337,305
Dependencies.	
Manchuria ...	8,500,000
Mongolia ...	2,580,000
Tibet ...	6,430,000
Chinese Turke-	
stan (Sinkiang) ...	1,200,000
	18,710,000

Grand Total, 426,045,305

These figures are accepted as they stand by Marshall Broomhall, B.A., Editorial Secretary of the China Inland Mission in "The Chinese Empire, A General and Missionary Survey" (pp. 2 and 42), published in 1907. M. Kennelly, S.J., in his translation of L. Richard's "Comprehensive Geography of the Chinese Empire," published in 1908 (pp. 5 and 8), gives the same figures for dependencies, but puts the population of the eighteen Provinces at 410,000,000. It may, therefore be said that both Protestant and Roman Catholic Missionaries are agreed that the population of the Chinese Empire exceeds 400,000,000. Finally Mr. H. B. Morse, B.A., Harvard, Commissioner of Customs and Statistical Secretary to the Inspectorate-General of Customs, China, in his book "The Trade and Administration of the Chinese Empire," published in 1908 (p. 203), writes:—"Parker's estimate of 385,000,000 is probably the safest to follow. For China 'outside the Wall' the safest estimates are 16,000,000 for Manchuria and 10,000,000 for Mongolia, Tibet, etc., making with Parker's estimate for China Proper, a total of 411,000,000."

Of course any increase in the estimated population will decrease the percentage of opium smokers and vice versa.

Mr. Morse in the same book (pp. 345-350) estimates the production of native opium in China to be:—

	Piculs.
Coast Provinces ...	42,500
Yangtze Provinces ...	10,500
Island Provinces ...	323,000
	376,000

He adds:—"It cannot be asserted that this figure is measurably exact; but it may be safely asserted that the production of opium in China to-day is at the lowest, six-fold, and is more probably eight-fold, the quantity of the present import of foreign opium." For the weight of foreign opium imported Mr. Morse gives no statistics more recent than 1905, for which year he gives, on page 342, the following figures:—

	Piculs.
Opium reported to Imperial Maritime Customs ...	51,920
Opium imported either by junk legitimately, but not reported to the Imperial Maritime Customs, or smuggled ...	5,000
	56,920

Mr. Morse does not say what amount of native opium was exported. Assuming, therefore, that the whole amount was consumed in China, and that the foreign import was in 1907 the same as in 1905, the total consumption of opium in China was 432,920 piculs, which, although considerably higher than Sir J. Jordan's estimate, still falls 326,070 piculs short of the amount necessary to give a rate of 2 per cent. of opium smokers in the Empire, assuming the daily dose to be Tls. 0.2.

APPENDIX B.

The official Chinese census of 1902 gives the population of Szechwan as 68,724,890. This figure is accepted by Mr. Broomhall (p. 225 of his book above quoted); and M. Kennelly (p. 105 of his book above quoted) gives 68,724,800 as

the population. It may, therefore, be said that the missionary bodies accept a considerably higher figure than Sir J. Jordan; and of course, at this figure, the percentage of opium smokers will be considerably lower than that given by Sir A. Hosie. Mr. Morse (p. 223 of his book above quoted) writes of the population of this province:—"The estimates made within the last twenty years have ranged from 35,000,000 (Hobson, 1892) to 79,300,000 (Popoff, 1894); but the general tendency of investigators has been to put it between 50,000,000 and 65,000,000; Parker (1903) is inclined, however, to doubt all the high estimates; and Hosie (1904), than whom few have studied the province more carefully, puts it at 45,000,000." This last is the figure quoted by Sir J. Jordan and it will be seen that it is a conservative estimate.

With regard to the amount of opium consumed in the province Mr. Morse (p. 349) says:—"The recognised authority for Szechwan to-day is Mr. A. Hosie. In his consular report for 1903 (presented to both Houses of Parliament, October 1904, Cd. 2247), '... as the result of a careful detailed calculation, he states that the consumption of Szechwan-grown opium by the inhabitants of Szechwan is 182,500 piculs. If to this be added the probable export eastward from the province, we have a probable production of not less than 250,000 piculs.' It will be seen that Sir J. Jordan has accepted the figure 182,000 piculs, as the amount consumed in the province, from Sir A. Hosie.

Mr. Morse (*loc. cit.*) says "No foreign opium has even been imported" into Szechwan.

SUPREME COURT.

Friday, 12th June.

IN ORIGINAL JURISDICTION.

BEFORE THE CHIEF JUSTICE
(SIR F. PIGGOTT).

QUESTIONED JUDGMENTS.

A motion was presented by the Hon. Mr. H. E. Pollock, K.C., for an order to set aside judgments given against the Tung Shing Wo firm in November last on the ground that the defendants had never existed or had a place of business, nor had any of their partners ever been resident in the Colony of Hongkong; and that the debts in respect of which the actions were brought were incurred, if at all, in the Empire of China, and not in Hongkong; and that the orders in pursuance of which the writs in the actions were served by ways of substituted service were wrongfully obtained.

Mr. Pollock was instructed by Mr. Deacon, (of Messrs. Deacon, Looker and Deacon), on behalf of the Tung Shing Wo firm, the defendants in the original action, and Mr. M. W. Slade (instructed by Mr. Crowther Smith, of Messrs. D'Almada and Smith) appeared for the plaintiffs.

At the outset his Lordship raised the point that a motion to set aside must be made within a reasonable time, as soon as possible, otherwise they would be held to acquiesce in the judgment.

Mr. Pollock said the motion was made within six months. They did not know of the judgments until after they were given. Proceeding, he read an affidavit by Mr. Deacon, who stated therein that as the result of instructions received by his firm, his agent had interviewed one of the partners in the defendant firm who was then in prison in Newchwang, where he had been imprisoned by the Chinese Government in consequence of the firm's insolvency. As a result of those interviews a declaration was prepared, which the prisoner was willing to sign, but was prevented by the Customs Taotai and the Chairman of the Chinese Chamber of Commerce, purporting to be acting on behalf of the Newchwang creditors. The agent for Messrs. Deacon, Looker and Deacon said in his affidavit that from the information he had obtained he believed that the claims of the plaintiffs had originated at Newchwang, and were not claims within the jurisdiction of the Hongkong Court.

His Lordship—You must satisfy me that you have taken steps within a reasonable time.

Mr. Pollock—Quite so, my Lord. I have a draft of the declaration that this man was prepared to sign.

His Lordship—I can only look at it by consent.

Mr. Pollock—This man was interviewed by a barrister, the agent for Messrs. Deacon, Looker and Deacon. I submit your Lordship should look at it.

Mr. Slade objected.

Mr. Pollock—This is the declaration this man was prepared to sign, but he was prevented from doing so.

His Lordship—I do not see my way to look at it.

Mr. Pollock said the allegations of the other side were made on the fact that the defendants had a place of business in Benham Strand, and inside the shop of the Tuk Shing firm. He had an enormous body of evidence to combat that. He argued that the statement which was attached to Mr. Deacon's second affidavit was admissible because it was a statement made to the legal agent of Messrs. Deacon, Looker and Deacon. It was not a casual statement, but one regularly made.

The Chief Justice:—It would introduce far too dangerous a quantity. A man might change his mind at the last moment and say "No, that is not the statement I am prepared to sign."

The further hearing was adjourned until Monday.

Monday, 15th June.

IN ORIGINAL JURISDICTION.

BEFORE THE CHIEF JUSTICE
(SIR FRANCIS PIGGOTT).

QUESTIONED JUDGMENTS.

Hearing of the motion presented by the Hon. Mr. H. E. Pollock, K.C., for an order to set aside judgments given against the Tung Shing Wo firm in November last was resumed. It will be remembered that the motion was moved on the ground that the defendants had never existed or had a place of business, nor had any of their partners ever been resident in the Colony of Hongkong; and that the debts in respect of which the actions were brought were incurred, if at all, in the Empire of China, and not in Hongkong; and that the orders in pursuance of which the writs in the actions were served by way of substituted service were wrongfully obtained.

Mr. Pollock was instructed by Mr. Deacon (of Messrs. Deacon, Looker and Deacon), on behalf of the Tung Shing Wo firm, the defendants in the original action, and Mr. M. W. Slade (instructed by Mr. Crowther Smith, of Messrs. D'Almada and Smith) appeared for the plaintiffs.

His Lordship said—There is one point to which I want to refer. There is no consolidation in this, and there is only one motion made in the four actions. It is entirely the fault of the Registrar and I must simply ask him to wake up. It is their business to look after the finances and there must be a formal application made for consolidation. Of course it is for convenience of all parties, and I think the proper course to pursue, so far as the revenue is concerned, is that the motion should bear the proper stamps and the affidavits on the other side, if filed by the four plaintiffs, should bear the same stamps as before.

Mr. M. Slade—We did our best to get things straight, and we came and asked what we should do. There being four parties we did not know what to do.

His Lordship—The Registrar must wake up. I am not in any way criticising the actions of the solicitors because they are only too ready to fall in with any suggestions made.

Hon. Mr. H. E. Pollock—If your Lordship pleases; that will be done.

Mr. Slade said the Tung Shing Wo firm had carried on business in the colony. They had borrowed money, and instead of shipping the goods that were to be sent in payment to their own firm, they shipped them to another outside firm, thus absolutely taking away the security of the plaintiff firm.

Mr. Pollock, in reply, said the plaintiffs were putting forward a different story to what they

had first declared, and therefore the court should treat them as unreliable witnesses.

His Lordship, in giving judgment, said that if a person who had his principal business in another colony wished to show that there was an agency here we must make that clear. Besides, the defendant's agent had borrowed money from the plaintiffs, their agent had accepted the money, and under the circumstances it was perfectly justifiable for the plaintiff to say, that so far as they knew, these people carried on business here. He therefore rejected the application.

IN APPELLATE JURISDICTION.

LEAVE TO APPEAL.

The Hon. Mr. Pollock, K.C., asked leave on behalf of the Russo-Chinese Bank to appeal against the decision in the jury action wherein Li Yau Sam claimed \$41,415 from the Russo-Chinese Bank, being money alleged to have been handed to defendants for transmission to Shanghai on behalf of the plaintiff. Mr. M. W. Slade, instructed by Mr. C. H. Beavis, appeared for Li Yau Sam and Hon. Mr. H. E. Pollock, K.C., instructed by Mr. Gedga, of Messrs. Johnson, Stokes and Master, made the formal application.

The hearing was adjourned till July 2nd.

Wednesday, 17th June.

IN BANKRUPTCY JURISDICTION.

SAVED THEIR MONEY.

Re the Kwong Hung Tai, the Official Receiver said this was an application adjourned a fortnight ago for the forfeiture of security. Notice was served on the guarantor. Mr. Goldring represents the debtors who were then in court.

The Chief Justice—What is the amount of the security?

The Official Receiver—\$3,300 security for the appearance of the debtors.

Mr. Goldring—I represent the guarantors and I also incidentally represent the debtors.

The Chief Justice—What are the facts?

The Official Receiver—I have filed my reports.

Mr. Goldring—The guarantors have only received the notice. They are willing to come forward.

The Chief Justice—And the debtors?

Mr. Goldring—I only represent them incidentally.

The Chief Justice—You cannot appear incidentally.

Mr. Goldring—The debtors are here and willing to go into the box.

The Official Receiver—This is the first time I have seen them.

The Chief Justice—Probably the notice has had a beneficial effect.

The Official Receiver—I don't wish to go on with the examination now. Perhaps your Lordship will warn these people to attend at my office when required.

The Chief Justice—Yes. (to debtors)—Where have you been all this time?—All the time in Hongkong.

What address?—We are out of employment. One day here and another in a different place.

One place you have not been is the Official Receiver's office.—Yes, I will give my address and he can find me any time.

Why have you not gone there before?—I saw the ex-Official Receiver.

The Official Receiver—That is so, my Lord, he saw Mr. Kemp. I wrote this man on the 6th April and my letter was returned. I have had information that the men were out of the colony all the time.

Debtors then gave an address in Wing Lok Street where they said they could be found.

The Chief Justice—Where are the guarantors? (When one stepped forward he said)—If they don't appear next time they are called upon the guarantee will be forfeited at once.

An answer has been vouchsafed to the Imperial prayers. A telegram from Peking reports that on the 11th instant the Capital was visited by a great thunderstorm during which copious rains fell. This, it is hoped, will relieve the fears of farmers of the Imperial prefecture, whose crops had been in danger of withering away owing to the heat and drought.

COMMERCIAL.

IMPORTS.

RICE.

HONGKONG, 22nd June.—The tone of the market is has undergone practically no change during the week. Quotations are:—
Saigon, Ordinary \$5.20 to \$5.30
" Round, Good quality 5.35 to 5.40
" Long 5.80 to 6.00
Siam, Field mill cleaned, No. 2 4.85 to 4.95
" Garden, " No. 1 5.60 to 5.75
" White, 6.50 to 6.55
" Fine Cargo 6.70 to 6.80

OPIUM.

HONGKONG, June 19th.

Quotations are:—
Malwa New \$975 per picul.
Malwa Old \$1005 do.
Malwa Older \$1030 do.
Malwa Very Old \$1070 do.
Persian Fine Quality \$800 do.
Persian Extra Fine \$880 do.
Patna New \$1147½ per chest.
Patna Old do.
Benares New \$1055 do.
Benares Old \$— do.

Amoy—For the week ending 5th June, the import of opium into Amoy was 42 piculs Benares, 4 of Persian, 8 Szechuen, 12 Yunnan.

SUGAR.

Kobe, June 2nd.—Beet.—Market firm, quotations unchanged. Cane.—Raw.—Owing to the difficulty experienced by buyers in financing their present stocks, prices have receded somewhat.—Osaka Refined.—The usual auctions were held on the 13th and 23rd ultimo. At the former of these auctions 5,900 bags of various grades were offered, but the whole lot was subsequently withdrawn. On the 23rd ultimo, 5,400 bags were offered, 700 being disposed of at prices approximately 10 sen higher than last market quotations, the remainder being withdrawn.

COTTON.

Kobe, June 2nd.—Since last report quotations of both "spot" and "forward" American Cotton have shown a marked upward tendency. Owing, however, to the depressed state of the yarn market no important business is reported. In view of the improvement of prices generally, holders of "spot" are now hesitating to sell, in the hope of realizing better rates by holding on. "Spot" Middling is quoted at 31.50. Indian.—Some transactions have been done in some special growths, but business generally is quiet and dull. "Spot" Cotton has been moving slowly at following rates, which show some improvement on previous quotation:—Broach Y 27.00. Akola Khanguam Y 23.25, Bengal Y 22.00. Chinese.—Prices have risen considerably, but business is practically at a standstill in both "forward" and "spot." "Best" closes at Y 26.50, and Common at Y 22.00.

PIECE GOODS.

SHANGHAI.—From Messrs. Noel, Murray & Co.'s report dated 4th June.—The Settling day passed off yesterday quietly and to all outward appearances satisfactorily, so much so that one of the local papers has a leading article this morning on the subject, and writes of the wonderful recuperative powers of the Chinese, etc., and how by some imaginary system of co-operation they are enabled to meet their engagements, and so on, showing an utter ignorance of the subject and entirely misleading its readers who do not happen to know full well the actual facts of the case. These are, that the Import houses here are carrying, through the Foreign Banks, the huge stocks of goods now here, mostly of the Fancy variety, for the Chinese Importers, who, for the past few years, when the market was buoyant were able to fulfil their engagements, following up each transaction with orders on a larger scale. Any measure of success they met with incited others to follow their example, until the trade in the newer articles of Fancy Goods especially was almost entirely in the hands of men of straw. It has now reached the climax. By an unfortunate chain of circumstances the market has gone against them and the consequence is a general collapse. Out of four hundred native Firms who were dealing in Piece Goods last year 70 per cent are absolutely wrecked, and most have disappeared from the scene. Those who have survived, are mostly the men who have confined their attention to the staple makes of Grey and White cloth, the losses on which, though

not trifling, they have been able to meet. Hundreds of summons have been taken out in the Mixed Court (but it is only throwing good money after bad), to recover the losses pending, the extent of which cannot be ascertained until the goods are sold and cleared. That is the situation which has to be faced now, and a mighty serious one it is too! As to the business done during the week, it has consisted of the usual Auction sales and a few cross transactions amongst the natives. Clearances have continued fairly good, though the conditions prevailing in most of the consuming markets cannot be called very satisfactory. Tientsin and neighbourhood have only been favoured with a few showers, not enough to save the crops. The Manchester market is firm with but little doing. There is no news yet of the Indian monsoon having broken. The decline in American Cotton in Liverpool until 6.36d. was touched, since our last was written, has been arrested, the quotation coming to-day 6.43d. No price for futures has been received this week. A significant remark appeared in one of the Manchester papers, just as the late advance in American Cotton was commencing, to the effect that Manufacturers had a good deal of stuff yet to deliver contracted for at much higher rates than those then quoted, and in some cases would sell at a fall of 25 per cent on the orders till on their books. It is to be hoped for the sake of those concerned the rapid advance that has subsequently taken place in Cotton will have prevented anything of that sort being consummated. The condition of the new crop in the States on 25th May was 79.7, against an average of 83.8 at that stage of the growing for the last fourteen years. The acreage planted is 32,081,000, practically the same as last year. The Export of Plain Cottons from Great Britain to China and Hongkong last month was 34,000,000 yards. The New York market is reported strong with no demand for Export in this direction. Cotton at the close is quoted 9.70 cents for September.

SHANGHAI.—From Messrs Ilbert & Co.'s weekly Report, dated Shanghai June 4th.—The Chinese settling day which takes place on the fifth day of the fifth moon has passed off without any great trouble mainly because the so-called settlements are confined to their dealings with one another, and in many cases no doubt the order of the day has been to "carry on." There is a general disposition to liquidate outstandings, but in such a market as we have had to deal with for some time back it is impossible to force business except at a sacrifice, and as even at artificially low prices, demand is anything but active, sellers are disposed to meet inquiry as it arises and to curtail new operations, in the hope that the long period of depression will eventually come to an end. Fluctuations such as we have had in cotton, wool, metals, and exchange, upset all reasonable calculations, and spread a feeling of want of confidence in every direction. There seems to be little hope of a rapid restoration of confidence; but month by month stocks are being reduced, and if importers continue to curtail new operations until holders have an opportunity of getting rid of old stock the trade should gradually become healthy again. The export figures for May are fairly satisfactory, and coupled with present quotations should have a favourable influence on the market here. 8½ shirtings and T.-Cloths are quoted 3d. per piece up for the month, white shirtings 6d. 10-lb. shirtings 7½d. and 12-lb. 1/- per piece higher, while yarn has advanced 1½d. per lb. Buyers are holding off except for pressing requirements. Cotton is steady at 6.43d. There is a considerable stoppage or partial stoppage of looms both in England and America, and no heavy stocks are understood to be accumulating anywhere. Newchwang exchange has declined to 72 as against a normal rate of about 105 in former years; recent shipments to that market are said to be hanging fire to some extent, owing to the fall in exchange; on the other hand slightly better reports have been received from Tientsin, but rain is badly wanted for the crops in Chihli and Shantung. Locally firmness is shown principally in the cotton market where prices are very high. It is reported that five mills in the surrounding country and two at Shanghai are contemplating suspension of work next week. The Export for the month of May from the United Kingdom to Hongkong and China are telegraphed privately as following:

	In	In	In	In	In	In	In
	1908	1907	1906	1905	1904	1903	1902
Plain Cottons							
in millions of yards.	34	27	33	43	15	29	37
Dyed & Coloured Cottons.							
in millions of yards.	6.4	13.7	11.6	10.	9.3	5.4	5.7
Printed Cottons.							
in millions of yards.	6	2.7	2.6	2.1	1.0	2.8	3.1
Yarn							
in bales	1,800	1,300	700	1,900	300	1,200	600

Kobe, June 2nd.—Market continues in a depressed state; clearances are unsatisfactory, but the bottom appears to have been reached. Manchester replacing costs are higher than a month ago, whilst Bradford goods remain about the same. There have been a few small enquiries, but no business worth recording has resulted, the general feeling being to restrict forward purchases at present.

EXPORTS:—

TEA.

HANKOW, June 3rd.—Business reported since the 27th ult., is as under:—

	1908.	1907.
Settlements ...	131,493	126,314
Consisting of the following Teas:—		
1-Chests.		per picul
Ningchows.....	30,018 at Tls. 19.00	at 70.00
Khemuns	10,703 " 21.75	" 55.00
Hohow	350 " —	" 24.50
Wenchow	82 " —	" 16.50
Oopacks.....	22,239 " 16.50	" 21.60
Oonams	29,782 " 17.50	" 25.50
Oofaas	28,641 " 20.50	" 28.00
Seang-tams	9,683 " 16.50	" 17.80

The following are Statistics at date compared with the corresponding statement of last season, viz, 29th May, 1907:—

	1908.	1907.
HANKOW TEA 1-Chests.	1-Chests.	
Settlements ...	259,896	270,107
Stock ...	52,061	54,953

Arrivals ...	284,957	325,060
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	1908.	1907.
KIUKIANG TEA. 1-Chests.	1-Chests.	
Settlements ...	122,815	104,108
Stock ...	36,640	67,297

Arrivals ...	159,455	171,405
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Comparative Quotations per picul are as under:—

	1908.	1907.
Ningchow Tls. 19.00 at 100.00	Tls. 20.00 at 90.00	
Khemuns " 21.75 " 67.00	" 20.00 " 71.00	
Hohow " 21.00 " 24.50	" — " —	
Wenchow " 19.50 " 21.00	" — " —	
Oopack " 16.50 " 26.00	" 15.00 " 27.00	
Oonam " 16.50 " 28.00	" 15.00 " 28.00	
Oonfaa " 20.50 " 36.00	" 18.00 " 36.00	
Seangtam " 16.50 " 18.50	" 13.75 " 17.50	

Kobe, June 2nd.—A small daily business has been transacted during the past two weeks—prices being on about the same basis as last season. The supply of all grades is reported short. Settlements (to 31st) amount to pls. 11,000, or 6,000 less than at same date last year.

SILK.

SHANGHAI.—From Messrs. F. C. Heffer's Annual Report, dated Shanghai, June 4th:—The season 1907-08 has been an extremely unsatisfactory one to all engaged in the industry, especially to foreign merchants who, on the whole, have been heavier losers than the Chinese.

This season has witnessed a phenomenal decline in the values of Silk (see below actual figures). The large contracts entered into of new Silk during March and April of last year, caused tael prices to advance to the same high level as in 1902 when Steam Filatures were booked at Tls. 1,100 for No. 1; but whereas in 1902 Exchange was 2/2, last year it was 3/2. The volume of business previous to the advent of the New Crop encouraged native merchants to buy heavily and to pay high prices in the interior; consumers, however, finding themselves confronted with larger crops in all the producing centres, and being stocked up to September with high priced Silk, withdrew from the Market.

Throughout the remainder of 1907 very little business was done, Japanese prices being comparatively cheaper, and it was not until April that the market revived, when the Chinese, assisted by a decline in Exchange of nearly 20 per cent. came down to the Home ideas and were able to dispose of 4/5,000 bales. The season closes with a stock of White Silk here and in the interior of nearly 14,000 piculs, or 30 per cent of the season's production.

Exchange remained in the neighbourhood of 8/2 until the middle of October when a decline set in and in April 2/4 was reached; since then a slight advance has again occurred.

As a comparison of prices ruling at the commencement of this season and at the close, we give the following:—

	June 1907.	Ex. at 4 m/s.	May 1908.	Ex. at 4 m/s.
Gold Killing.....	625	2/11 1/2	500	2/5
Best Steam Filatures				
9/11	1,130		760	
Best Native Filatures	900		640	

Steam Filatures.—The production was about 5 per cent. in excess of the previous season, of which about 1,000 bales remain to be sold. Filature owners have not been heavy losers as nearly two-thirds of their production was contracted for before the season commenced.

Yellow Silks.—The crop was 10 per cent. more than last season, the excess being chiefly in Mienyangs and Mienchews. Yellow Szechuans on the other hand have been very scarce.

Wild Silk.—The export to Europe has fallen off this season some 6,000 bales, other countries taking about the same quantity as last year. Prices have slowly declined and stand now at about Tls. 60 lower than at the commencement of the season. Nearly two thousand bales stock are being carried over.

New Crop.—The crop is expected to be 15/20 per cent. less than last year although this is fully compensated for by the stocks left over. Altogether there should be fully 45,000 bales White Silk available for export.

CAMPHOR.

HONGKONG, June 22nd.—The price of Formosan now ruling is from \$91.00 to \$92.50.

COTTON.

HANKOW.—The export of raw cotton from Hankow has been immensely better this year than last. Since 1st October, to 23rd May, the export has been 187,092 piculs and the year has a week to run. Last year the export did not amount to more than 89,609 piculs.

COPPER.

Kobe, June 2nd.—Considerable business was done in the beginning and middle of May, amounting to about 3,000 tons. During the last week a somewhat weaker tendency prevailed in the London market and exercised its influence here. No further transactions of importance have taken place in consequence.

YARN.

Kobe, June 2nd.—More doing for export, estimated at between 6,000 and 10,000 bales during the past fortnight; prices on the exchange and in the open market are firmer with a higher tendency.

VEGETABLE WAX.

Kobe, June 2nd.—Owing to reported buying of native speculators in Osaka, Refiners have advanced their prices to yen 25.00 per picul, which precludes any chance of buying for export, buyers' ideas being about yen 21.00 per picul.

MATTING AND STRAW BRAID.

Kobe, June 2nd.—Matting Stocks have been changing hands freely at lower figures, but during the past two days there has been a firmer tendency. Prices for contract patterns continues firm. Prices of Straw Braid were well maintained during the past fortnight, the market closing firm with upward tendency. Chip Braid.—Practically no change to report.

GENERAL EXPORTS.

HANKOW.—The Customs returns show that since 1st October, 1907, to the 23rd ultimo, the exports from Hankow have been:—

Cowhides ...	71,310 piculs.
Buffalo Hides ...	19,760 "
Goatskins Untanned...	1,742,023 pieces.
Animal Tallow...	7,497 piculs.
Vegetable Tallow ...	125,482 "
Nutgalls ...	28,194 "
Bristles ...	4,986 "
Sesamun Seed ...	1,435,119 "
Wood Oil ...	307,725 "
China Grass (including Abutilon and Jute) ...	119,162 "
Cotton (raw) ...	187,092 "

Per P. & O. str. Candia, sailed on 13th June. For Glasgow:—9 cases chinaware. For London:—50 bales waste silk, 50 bales hemp, 1,566 packages crackers, 90 cases bristles, 195 rolls matting, 150 packages tea, 9 cases woodware, 9 cases china ink, 14 packages private effects and 6 empty gas flasks.

Per P. & O. str. Delhi, sailed on 13th June, 1908.—For Manchester:—269 bales waste silk. For Gibraltar:—2 cases silk. Lyons:—10 bales raw silk. For Marseilles:—45 bales raw silk, 13 cases birds' feathers, 1 case silk embroideries. For London:—208 bales waste silk, 2 cases birds' feathers, 2 cases silk, 3rd cases hats, 12 cases private effects. For Trieste:—1 case birds' feathers.

HONGKONG SHARE QUOTATIONS.

HONGKONG, 19th June, 1908.—Our market has ruled very quiet during the past week, and apart from an advance in Banks in the early part of the period under review, (to some extent since lost) closes practically without feature, and with but little business to report. Exchange in sympathy with an advance in Bar Silver to 25 1/4 d., has firmed up, and closes at 1/10 1/4 T.T. on London, and 7 1/4 T.T. on Shanghai.

BANKS.—An advance of 30/- per share in the early part of the week sent Hongkong and Shanghai up to \$760, at which rate a fair business was done: at the close however a sale at \$755 is reported, and it is probable that more shares could be obtained at that rate. The London quotation is £78. 10. 0. Nationals are still enquired for at \$51.

MARINE INSURANCES.—Unions are slightly easier with sellers at \$790. There are sellers of North Chinas at Tls. 78, Yangtszes at \$147 1/2, and Cantons at \$235. China Traders continue in request at \$86 1/4.

FIRE INSURANCES.—Hongkongs have sold, and are still in request at \$315. Chinas have been booked at \$93, and more shares can be placed.

SHIPPING.—Hongkong, Canton and Macao have ruled steady with sales at \$29 and \$29 1/4, and close with buyers at the former, and sellers at the latter rate. Indo-Chinas are procurable at \$40 and \$22 for the preferred and deferred combined. A telegram to the General Managers informs shareholders that the annual General Meeting will be held in London on the 25th June. It is proposed to pay a dividend of 6 per cent. on the preference shares only, to write off £56,580 for depreciation of the vessels of the fleet, and to carry forward the balance of £13,750. The reserve fund will then stand at £10,000, and the underwriting account at £240,000. China and Manilas continue on offer at \$15, and Star Ferries at \$25 and \$15 for the old and new issues respectively. Shell Transports have been booked at 46s. and Douglasses at \$37, \$36 1/2 and \$36, the latter closing with buyers at \$35.

REFINERIES.—China Sugars have sold and are procurable to a limited extent at \$132 1/2. Luzons are probably obtainable at \$22.

MINING.—Raubs after sales at \$8 and \$7 1/2, are now on offer at the latter rate. Charbonnages are still in request at \$570, but no shares appear to be available at the rate.

DOCKS, WHARVES AND GODOWNS.—Hongkong and Whampoa Docks have been booked at \$107, \$106, \$105 and \$104, closing with probable sellers at the latter rate. Hongkong and Kowloon Wharves are again slightly easier with sellers at \$51 after sales at \$52 and \$51 1/4. Shanghai Docks have suddenly declined to Tls. 80 at which rate there are sellers in Shanghai. This Company, according to private telegraphic advices, will pay a final dividend of Tls. 2 1/2 per share, making Tls. 5 for the year, and it is no doubt due to a disappointment in this connection that the market in the north has so suddenly dropped. Shanghai and Hongkong Wharves are again firmer in the Northern market at Tls. 238 buyers.

LANDS, HOTELS AND BUILDINGS.—Hongkong Lands continue on offer at \$99, and West Points at \$48. Kowloon Lands have been booked at \$26, and it is probable that more shares

could be placed. Hongkong Hotels continue on offer at \$95. There are buyers of Humphrey's Estates at \$10, and of Shanghai Lands at the advanced rate of Tls. 124.

COTTON MILLS.—Hongkongs have been dealt in at the improved rate of \$11. The Northern Mills are practically without change, and there is no business to report.

MISCELLANEOUS.—Green Island Cements have again been booked at \$10½, and China Light and Powers at \$6½. Ices are wanted at \$225 after sales at the rate. There are buyers of China Providents at \$9½, Ropes at \$25. South China Morning Posts at \$23, and Hongkong and China Gas at \$175. Tramways, Watsons and Steam Laundries are quiet with sellers at quotations. Weismanns are enquired for at \$150.

Quotations are as follows:—

COMPANY.	PAID UP.	QUOTATIONS.
Alhambra	Ps. 200	Nominal
Banks—		
Hongkong & S'hai...	\$125	\$755, sellers
National B. of China...	26	\$51, buyers
Bell's Asbestos E. A...	12s. 6d.	\$7½, sellers
China-Borneo Co...	\$12	\$10½, sales
China Light & P. Co.	{ \$10 }	\$6½, buyers
China Provident	{ \$1 }	\$9½, buyers
Cotton Mills—		
Ewo...	Tls. 50	Tls. 56
Hongkong	\$10	\$11, sales
International	Tls. 75	Tls. 63
Laou Kung Mow	Tls. 100	Tls. 77½
Soychee	Tls. 500	Tls. 260
Dairy Farm	\$6	\$19½
Docks & Wharves—		
H. & K. Wharf & G.	\$50	\$51, sellers
H. & W. Dock	\$50	\$105, sellers
New Amoy Dock	\$8½	\$9½, buyers
Shanghai Dock and Eng. Co., Ltd.	Tls. 100	Tls. 80, sellers
S'hai & H. Wharf	Tls. 100	Tls. 237½
Fenwick & Co., Geo.	\$25	\$13, sellers
G. Island Cement	\$10	\$10½, sales
Hongkong & C. Gas	\$10	\$175, buyers
Hongkong Electric	\$10	\$16, sales
Hongkong Hotel Co.	\$50	\$95, sellers
Hongkong Ice Co.	\$25	\$225, sales & buy.
H. K. Milling Co., Ltd.	\$100	Nominal
Hongkong Rope Co.	\$10	\$25, buyers
Insurances—		
Canton	\$50	\$235, sellers
China Fire	\$20	\$93, sales
China Traders	\$25	\$86½, buyers
Hongkong Fire	\$50	\$315, sales & buy.
North China	\$25	Tls. 78, sellers
Union	\$100	\$790, sellers
Yangtze	\$60	\$147½
Land and Buildings—		
H'kong Land Invest.	\$100	\$99, sellers
Humphrey's Estate	\$10	\$10, buyers
Kowloon Land & B.	\$30	\$26 sales
Shanghai Land	Tls. 50	Tls. 124
West Point Building	\$50	\$48, sellers
Mining—		
Charbonnages	Ps. 250	\$570, buyers
Raub	18/10	\$7½, sellers
Peak Tramways	\$1	\$2, sellers
Philippine Co.	\$10	\$8 sellers
Refineries—		
China Sugar	\$100	\$132½, sellers
Luzon Sugar	\$100	\$22
Steamship Companies		
China and Manila	\$25	\$15, sellers
Douglas Steamship	\$50	\$35, buyers
H. Canton & M.	\$15	\$29½, sellers
Indo-China S. N. Co.	\$25	\$40, sellers
Shell Transport Co.	\$1	\$22, sellers
Star Ferry	\$10	\$46, sales
Do. New	\$5	\$25, sales
South China M. Post	\$25	\$15, sellers
Steam Laundry Co.	\$5	\$23, buyers
Stores & Dispensaries		\$6 sellers
Campbell, M. & Co.	\$10	\$15
Powell & Co., Wm.	\$10	\$5½
Watkins	\$10	\$3, sales & buyers
Watson & Co., A. S.	\$10	\$9½, sellers
Wiesmann Ltd.	\$100	\$150, buyers
United Asbestos	\$4	\$13, buyers
Do. Founders	\$10	\$150, buyers
Union Waterboat Co.	\$10	\$10½, buyers

VERNON & SMYTH, Brokers.

SHANGHAI SHARE QUOTATIONS.

11th June, 1908.

COMPANY.	PAID UP.	QUOTATION.
Banks—		
Hongkong & S'hai...	\$125	\$770, sales
National of China...	26	\$51, buyers
Russo-Chinese	{ R187½ }	Tls. 175, sellers
Insurance—		
Union Society C'ton	\$100	\$795, sellers
North-China	\$25	Tls. 77½, sellers
Yangtze Assocn.	\$60	\$152½, buyers
Canton	\$50	\$230, sales
Hongkong Fire	\$50	\$312½, buyers
China Fire	\$20	\$92, sales
Shipping—		
Indo-China { pref. }	\$10	Tls. 29½, sales
Shell Trans. { def. }	\$1	Tls. 14½, sales
& Trading { ord. }	10	\$25.0, sellers
S'hai Tug & { pref. }	T50	\$9.10, sellers
Lighter { ord. }	T50	Tls. 42, buyers
Taku Tug & Lighter	T50	Tls. 51½, buyers
Docks & Wharves—		
S'hai Dock & Eng.	T100	Tls. 87, buyers
H. & W. Dock	\$50	\$106, sales
S. & H'kew Wharf	T100	Tls. 230, buyers
H. K'loon W. & G.	\$50	\$53, sellers
Yangtze	T100	Tls. 217½, sales
Sugar Companies—		
Perak Cultivation	T50	Tls. 82½, sellers
China Refining	\$100	\$135, sellers
Mining—		
Raub Australian	{ £1 }	\$8, sellers
Chinese Eng. & Min.	18/10	Tls. 16, sellers
Lands—		
S'hai Investment	T50	Tls. 121, sales
H'kong Investment	\$100	\$100, sellers
Humphreys' Estate	\$10	\$104, sales
Weihsaiwei	T25	\$9, sellers
China	T50	Tls. 50, sellers
Anglo-French	T100	Tls. 101, sellers
Cotton—		
Ewo	T50	Tls. 58, sellers
International	T75	Tls. 63, buyers
Laou Kung Mow	T100	Tls. 77½, sellers
Soy Chee	T500	Tls. 255, sellers
H'kong C. S. W. D.	\$10	\$9, buyers
Industrial—		
Shanghai Gas	T50	Tls. 109½, buyers
Major Brothers	T50	Tls. 45, buyers
Shanghai Ice	T25	Tls. 14, sales
China Flour Mill	T50	Tls. 56, sellers
S'hai Pulp & Paper	T100	Tls. 47, buyers
Green Is. Cement	\$10	\$11, sellers
Maatschappij, &c., in Langkat	Gs. 100	Tls. 520, sellers
Shanghai - Sumatra Tobacco	T20	Tls. 90, sales
S'hai Waterworks	\$20	T385, sales
Anglo-Ger. Brewery	100	\$85, buyers
A. Butler Cement, Tile Works	50	\$35, sales
Kalumpang Rubber	50	\$52, buyers
Eastern Fibre	10	nominal
Shanghai Electric Construction	\$10	\$10, buyers
Miscellaneous—		
Hall & Holtz	\$20	\$20, sellers
A. Llewellyn	\$60	\$43, buyers
A. S. Watson & Co.	\$10	\$11½, sellers
Central Ordinary	\$15	\$12, sellers
Central Founders	\$15	\$400, buyers
S. Montrie & Co.	\$50	\$50, buyers
Weeks & Co.	\$20	\$21, buyers
Astor House Hotel	\$25	\$20½, sellers
Hongkong Hotel	\$50	\$98, sellers
Hotel des Colonies	T25	Tls. 7½, sellers
Tsingtao Hotel	\$100	nominal
Lane, Crawford & Co.	100	\$145, sellers
Dunning & Co.	50	\$52, sellers
S'hai Horse Bazaar	T50	Tls. 45, sellers
S'hai Mercury	T50	Tls. 50, sellers
S'hai Mutual Tele.	T50	Tls. 55, buyers
China Im. & Ek. Lumber	T100	Tls. 83, sellers
Shanghai Electric & Asbestos	\$25	\$23, sellers
Dallas Horse Repository	T50	Tls. 25, sellers
China Printing Co.	T50	Tls. 50, sellers

J. P. BISSET & Co.

Messrs. J. P. Bisset & Co.'s Share Report for the week ending 11th June, states—There has been a fair general business put through since our last issue, and adjustments are being made for the coming June Settlement. Rates all round have been maintained at about last week's level, with the exception of Hongkong and Shanghai Banks, which have had a substantial advance. Banks.—Hongkong and Shanghai Banks. There was no business reported during the previous week, the rate remaining at about \$760. A good demand has taken place since and yesterday shares changed hands at \$765, \$767½ and \$770. Insurance.—There is no business reported. Shipping.—Shanghai Tug and Lighter Co. ord. shares have been placed at Tls. 41½ and Tls. 42, closing with buyers at the latter figure. Preference have been taken off the market at Tls. 51½ with further buyers. Docks & Wharves.—Shanghai Dock & Engineering Co. No reported transactions have taken place. Shanghai and Hongkew Wharves: There has been a steady demand since the market opened and rates have improved from Tls. 229 to Tls. 231 for cash and for June from Tls. 230 to Tls. 232½. The market is steady at the close. For September there are buyers at Tls. 229. Sugars.—Perak Sugars are wanted at Tls. 80. Mining.—There is nothing reported this week. Lands.—Shanghai Land Investments have been in demand. Transactions are reported at Tls. 119 and Tls. 120 for cash, the market closing with buyers. Anglo-French Lands have been placed at Tls. 101. Industrial.—Ewos: A sale for June has been made at Tls. 58. Shanghai Gas Co. A fair business has been done in this stock at Tls. 109. Shanghai Ice Co. Shares have been dealt in at Tls. 14. China Flour Mills: Transactions are reported at Tls. 57 and Tls. 57½ for June. Maatschappij &c. in Langkat shares: Since our last rates have been quite steady at Tls. 520 for cash and Tls. 542½ and Tls. 545 for September. Shanghai Sumatras Tobacco shares: Small lots have changed hands at Tls. 90. Kalumpang Rubbers: Business has been done at Tls. 51 and Tls. 52 for cash, closing with sellers at the latter rate. Shanghai Electric Construction Co. A transaction was reported yesterday at £10. Miscellaneous.—Hall, & Holtz have changed hands at \$19½. Central Stores Ltd. There are sellers of ord. shares at \$12. Weeks & Co. are in demand at \$21. Astor House Hotel shares are on the market at \$20½. Shanghai Mutual Telephone Co. A fair business has been done in this stock at Tls. 54 and Tls. 55 for cash. Loans & Debentures.—Shanghai Municipal Debentures Six per cent. have been placed at Tls. 120. Shanghai Gas Six per cents stand at Tls. 101. Other six per cent debentures cannot be had for less than one per cent prem.

EXCHANGE.

HONGKONG, June 22nd.

ON LONDON.—	
Telegraphic Transfer	1/10
Bank Bills, on demand	1/10½
Bank Bills, at 30 days' sight	1/10½
Bank Bills at 4 months' sight	1/10½
Credits, at 4 months' sight	1/10½
Documentary Bills, 4 months' sight	1/10½
ON PARIS.—	
Bank Bills, on demand	231
Credits 4 months' sight	235½
ON GERMANY.—	
On demand	187½
ON NEW YORK.—	
Bank Bills, on demand	144
Credits, 60 days' sight	146
ON BOMBAY.—	
Telegraphic Transfer	138½
Bank, on demand	139
ON CALCUTTA.—	
Telegraphic Transfer	138½
Bank on demand	139
ON SHANGHAI.—	
Bank, at sight	74½
Private, 30 days' sight	75½
ON YOKOHAMA.—	
On demand	90
ON MANILA.—	
On demand	90½
ON SINGAPORE.—	
On demand	79
ON BATAVIA.—	
On demand	110½
ON HAIPHONG.—	
On demand	8½ p.c. pm.
ON SAIGON.—	
On demand	8 p.c. pm.
ON BANGKOK.—	
On demand	83
SOVEREIGNS, Bank's Buying Rate	\$10.70
GOLD LEAF 100 fine, per tael	\$56.00
BAR SILVER per oz	25½

SUBSIDIARY COINS.

		per cent.
Chinese	20 cents pieces	\$8.70 discount,
"	10 "	9.35 "
Hongkong	2½ "	8.75 "
"	10 "	8.80 "

FREIGHTS.

SHANGHAI.—From Messrs. Wheelock & Co.'s Report, dated June 4th:—Our Homeward Freight Market has been a little more active during the past fortnight and there are signs of an improvement all round: the first shipments of tea are going forward and general cargo is also a little more plentiful now than it was a few months ago. Coastwise: Although rates remain much the same as when last writing, there is not much demand for tonnage in any direction and business is very dull both here and in the South with very little prospect of any immediate improvement.

From Hankow per Conference Steamers.—To London and Northern Continental ports 45/- per ton of 40 c. ft. plus river freight. To Genoa, Marseilles or Havre 45/- per ton of 40 c. ft. plus river freight. To New York (via Suez) General Cargo 80/- per ton of 40 c. ft. plus river freight. or New York (via Suez), Tea 37/6 per ton of 40 c. ft. plus river freight. To New York (Overland) per carload, Tea G. \$1½ cents per lb gross; less than carload Tea G. \$1½ cents per lb gross plus river freight. To Shanghai:—Tea and General Cargo, Tls. 1.60 to 1.80 per ton, weight or measurement.

SHIPPING.

ARRIVALS AND DEPARTURES SINCE LAST MAIL.

June—ARRIVALS.

11, Choising, German str., from Bangkok.
12, Benvorlich, British str., from London.
12, Bujun Maru, Jap. str., from Focchow.
12, Delhi, British str., from Shanghai.
12, Kiukiang, British str., from Shanghai.
12, Sumatra, German str., from New Guinea.
12, Tean, British str., from Manila.
12, Vanshall, British str., from New York.
13, Arratoon Apar, British str., from Moji.
13, Catherine Apar, Brit. str., from Calcutta.
13, Chiyuen, Chinese str., from Shanghai.
13, Ithaka, German str., from Chinkiang.
13, Kaifong, British str., from Iloilo.
13, Rajaburi, German str., from Bangkok.
13, Telemachus, British str., from Saigon.
14, Amara, British str., from Wakamatsu.
14, Cheongshing, British str., from Tientsin.
14, Elax, British str., from Singapore.
14, Frithjof, Norwegian str., from Saigon.
14, Haitan, British str., from Coast Ports.
14, Kaga Maru, Japanese str., from Japan.
14, Linan, British str., from Chinwantao.
14, Nippon, Austrian str., from Trieste.
14, Oceano, British str., from Hongay.
14, Onsang, British str., from Moji.
14, Pocahontas, Brit. str., from Salina Cruz.
14, Romany, British str., from Kobe.
14, Shansi, British str., from Chinkiang.
14, Shoshu Maru, Jap. str., from Shanghai.
14, Signal, German str., from Haiphong.
15, Candia, British str., from Yokohama.
15, Cheangchow, British str., from Amoy.
15, Chihli, British str., from Haiphong.
15, Hangsang, British str., from Shanghai.
15, Hanoi, French str., from Haiphong.
15, Keongwai, German str., from Bangkok.
15, Tjikini, Dutch str., from Moji.
15, Reidar, Norwegian str., from Moji.
15, Rubi, British str., from Manila.
16, Astyanax, British str., from Singapore.
16, C. Diederichsen, Ger. str., from Swatow.
16, Ellen Rickmers, British str., from Moji.
16, Fri, Norwegian str., from Newchwang.
16, Goeben, German str., from Bremen.
16, Muncaster Castle, Br. str., from Y'hama.
16, Paklat, German str., from Bangkok.
16, Triumph, German str., from Haiphong.
16, Yeboshi Maru, Japanese str., from Moji.
16, Glaucus, British str., from Focchow.
17, America M., Jap. str., from San Francisco.
17, Amigo, German str., from Haiphong.
17, Andalusia, German str., from Kuchinotzu.
17, Bangkok, German str., from Bangkok.
17, Daijin Maru, Japanese str., from Tamsui.
17, Haimun, British str., from Coast Ports.
17, Johanne, German str., from Saigon.
17, Kwangtab, Chinese str., from Shanghai.
17, Liangchow, British str., from Wuhu.
17, Loongsang, British str., from Manila.
17, P. Heinrich, Ger. str., from Yokohama.
17, Scandia, German str., from Yokohama.
17, Socotra, British str., from London.
17, Yesan Maru, Jap. str., from Kuchinotzu.
17, Yetorofu Maru, Jap. str., from Singapore.

18, Istria, German str., from Singapore.
18, Shaohsing, British str., from Shanghai.
18, Stentor, British str., from Shanghai.
18, Tremont, American str., from Tacoma.

June—DEPARTURES.

12, Bingo Maru, Japanese str., for Kobe.
12, C. Diederichsen, Ger. str., for Swatow.
12, Changchow, British str., for Amoy.
12, Dagny, Norwegian str., for Newchwang.
12, Fausang, British str., for Saigon.
12, Haiching, British str., for Coast Ports.
12, Hongmoh, British str., for Amoy.
12, Hupeh, British str., for Hoihow.
12, Karonga, British str., for Shanghai.
12, Kowloon, German str., for Nagasaki.
12, Marie, German str., for Moji.
12, Nord, British str., for Singapore.
12, Peshawur, British str., for Shanghai.
12, Petohaburi, German str., for Swatow.
12, Solstad, Norwegian str., for Haiphong.
12, Taisang, British str., for Swatow.
12, Yawata Maru, Jap. str., for Australia.
13, Delhi, British str., for Europe, &c.
13, E. of India, British str., for Vancouver.
13, Glenearn, British str., for Saigon.
13, J. Diederichsen, Ger. str., for Haiphong.
13, Nanohang, British str., for Amoy.
13, Pittsaulok, German str., for Bangkok.
13, Proteus, Norwegian str., for Bangkok.
13, Sardinia, British str., for Shanghai.
13, Yu Shun, Chinese str., for Shanghai.
13, Zafiro, British str., for Manila.
14, Benvorlich, British str., for Nagasaki.
14, Joslin Maru, Japanese str., for Swatow.
14, Loyal, German str., for Manila.
14, Nicomedia, Ger. str., for Moji & Portland.
14, Samsen, German str., for Swatow.
14, Teucer, British str., for Manila.
15, Tsian, Brit. str., for Manila & Australia.
16, Candia, British str., for Singapore.
16, Hailan, French str., for Hoihow.
16, Haitan, British str., for Coast Ports.
16, Korea, American str., for San Francisco.
16, Meefoo, Chinese str., for Shanghai.
16, Shoshu Maru, Japanese str., for Takao.
16, Tean, British str., for Manila.
16, Taintan, German str., for Bangkok.
17, Astyanax, British str., for Nagasaki.
17, Chowtai, German str., for Swatow.
17, Drufar, Norwegian str., for Chefoo.
17, Goeben, German str., for Shanghai.
17, Huichow, British str., for Swatow.
17, Kaifong, British str., for Cebu.
17, Kiukiang, British str., for Amoy.
17, Looksun, German str., for Bangkok.
17, Muncaster Castle, British str., for Manila.
17, Nippon, Austrian str., for Shanghai.
17, Signal, German str., for Swatow.
17, Spir, Norwegian str., for Saigon.
17, Waishing, British str., for Shanghai.
18, Arratoon Apar, Brit. str., for Singapore.
18, Bujun Maru, Japanese str., for Swatow.
18, C. Diederichsen, German str., for Hoihow.
18, Chihli, British str., for Hoihow.
18, Chowfa, German str., for Hoihow.
18, Elax, British str., for Palambang.
18, Glaucus, British str., for Singapore.
18, Hongkong, French str., for Haiphong.
18, Lennox, British str., for Vancouver.
18, Manila, Ger. str., for Manila & Australia.
18, Prinz Heinrich, Ger. str., for Europe, &c.
18, Scandia, German str., for Singapore.
18, Socotra, British str., for Shanghai.
18, Tjikini, Dutch str., for Batavia.

PASSENGERS.

ARRIVED.

Per *Rubi*, from Manila, Mr and Mrs Maundelmann, Sister Arague, Capt. Hodger, Rev. Pedro Pratt, Messrs. Paterson, Churchill, Harding, Madson, Gross, Banr, Lantz-nhase, Ward, Bramwell, Wallace, Thompson, Norton, McDonald, W. Thomas, C. Aunersley and Florentino.
Per *America Maru*, from San Francisco, &c., Mrs D. Davis, Miss J. Betts, Messrs. F. C. Ferrier, H. H. L. Grangu, H. C. Joass, A. Gonarel, J. A. Haig, M. Lowe, E. D. Garner, Thos. Jameson and servant, J. Moore, Cesar Ramos and L. A. Roland.
Per *Delhi*, from Shanghai, for Hongkong, Mr and Mrs Holworthy and native servants, Miss Roth, Messrs. D. Burgons, O. Ricard, J. A. Stroll, W. E. Kent, W. Peel, W. M. Biton, C. E. Nelson, N. Y. Kempton, C. Coeta; for Singapore, Miss J. Sutton, Mr J. W. Prins, for Bombay, Mr B. Niccage; and for London, Capt. Hoakonsen.

Per *Arratoon Apar*, from Japan, Mr and Mrs Adams and child, Messrs. C. H. Rojee Reul and S. Maso.

Per *Tremont*, from Tacoma, &c., Mr and Mrs H. L. Hall & 2 children, Mr and Mrs G. Foster, Mr and Mrs J. N. Basila and 2 children, Mr and Mrs H. C. Clyde, Mrs L. T. de Rackin, Mrs B. W. Cadwallader and 2 children, Messrs. B. H. Moore, W. W. C. Burmester, Edward Ros, jr., Edward P. Fuller and M. M. Kaad.

Per *Prinz Heinrich*, for Hongkong, from Kobe, Mr S. Kawamura; from Shanghai, Prince Jean de Brogli, Messrs. E. Petterson, S. Roberts, Franco's Ellis, C. Ada. Rosa, L. Rich, Nicolaison, Materna, B. T. Rielle, E. C. Hallinau, J. M. Switzer, A. Abes and Ch. H. James.

Per *Goeben*, for Hongkong, from Bremen, Capt. Rud. Hatje, Messrs. Paul Schmidt, Christ. Detlepen and H. N. M. Petersen; from Antwerp, Mr Louis Cohen; from Southampton, Mr Corpl. Rich. Whiting; from Genoa, Mr and Mrs Carl Ingenohl and daughters, Rev. Crippa Luigi, Messrs. Albert Mix, Walter Hassiepen, Fritz Fassbender and Johns Elmies; from Naples, Mr and Mrs Gaston de Perinderge, Messrs. Franz E. Hellwig, Gino Cappone, L. Vald-ngo, A. Mantovani and Vzo. Armetta; from Port Said, Mrs G. Auerbach; from Penang, S. Ex. Mek Hung Chun, Messrs. A. Denison and Chesan; from Singapore, Miss Riwe, Capt. Vahsel, Mr and Mrs Siebenschein, Messrs. R. Lloyd, Ad. Blaustein, Shimamura and Carl Hude.

DEPARTED.

Per *Empres of India*, for Vancouver, &c., Mr and Mrs Chambers, child and nurse, Mr and Mrs Wanklyn, Capt. and Mrs Proctor, Mrs Fremantle, Mrs McCullough, Mrs A. C. More, Miss Dorothy McCullough and F. Johnson, Capt. Kitto, Capt. Shinkavin, Capt. Jones, Rev. M. Todd, Messrs. C. A. Chidell, Hagau, C. A. Krieg, P. A. Lapicque, J. D. Christie, Hill, Shanow, Schoenlicht, Goetz and Agassiz.

Per *Manila*, for Australia, &c., Mr and Mrs Siebenschein, Mr and Mrs J. F. Tomkins, Mrs G. Auerbach, Miss Betts, Messrs. H. F. Bingham, Louis Cohn, L. Ekman, Jons Elmies, F. C. Ferrier, Fritz Fassbender, Walter Hassiepen, Thos. Jamieson, Albert Mix and Paul Schmidt.

Per *Goeben* for Shanghai, Mrs A. R. de Souza, Misses Duna and A. M. Souza, Messrs. H. I. Bekker, B. A. Thomsen, Jonghin and R. P. Carter; for Nagasaki, Messrs. P. F. Nidrolls and Kerata; for Kobe, Mrs S. Andah, and Mr S. Saga; for Yokohama, Mr and Mrs Wroe, Miss Gaillard, Messrs. J. Siebermann and B. Lloyd.

Per *Prinz Heinrich*, for Hamburg, &c., Mr and Mrs v. Faronsbach and 4 children, Mr and Mrs C. Giese, Mr and Mrs J. den Hartog, Mr and Mrs Cheri Mandelbaum, Mr and Mrs Ogden, Mr and Mrs John Paton, Mr and Mrs Tomaszewski and 2 children, Mr and Mrs G. W. Withington, Capt. and Mrs H. Uecker, Mrs Dr. Demker, Mrs H. de Kempenaar, Mrs H. G. Wallace, Mrs Zundel and family, Misses Marianne Bierbaum, Else Beyer, Hansen and Ilse Loebbecke, Dr. Blancke, Dr. Nielsen, Dr. G. A. Stuttenheim, Surg. F. E. McCullough, U.S.N., Messrs. C. A. Bauer, H. T. E. Bakkes, van Dinter, Eras, R. M. Elder, W. G. B. Fletcher, H. Schmidt van Geldern, J. F. Gross, Graf Holok Winterfeldt, W. Hunt, C. P. Harley, Inade, Fritz Knoch, C. D. Kalbfell, Laarsen, O. E. Lautzenheiser, Rittmeister Meyer, J. G. Mulder, Eleno Madson, Nielsen, L. M. Newton, Hans Raven, Willy Raven, W. Schwartz, Commerzienrat Ritter F. v. Voigtlander, H. C. Welby and H. de Zwaan.

Per *Korea*, for San Francisco, &c., Mr & Mrs P. J. Werley, Mr and Mrs W. F. Smith, Mr and Mrs W. B. Davenport, Mr and Mrs N. A. Ross, Mr and Mrs S. Silvrstone and son, Mr and Mrs R. E. Hanley, Mr and Mrs P. A. Collins, Rev. and Mrs Dolts and child, Mrs A. Clark, Mrs M. G. Taylor, Capt. F. J. Helridge, H. E. Wang and suite, Messrs. A. Als & family, H. Fortier, A. M. Thompson, J. M. Minter, W. P. Campbell, G. H. Ostway, J. B. Wishard, A. Schoenlicht, S. Sagaragi, O. Ricard, J. McArthur, D. MacHaffie and W. N. Bitton.

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